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# yourthanet

THE NEWSPAPER FOR MARGATE, RAMSGATE, BROADSTAIRS AND DISTRICT

Issue No 121

Available from Wednesday,  
January 20, 2010

## MONEY MATTERS

Our pull-out guide on ways to make your money go further

**PROPERTY...**  
Competition rises  
for best mortgage

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# CLIFF COLLAPSE FEAR AT PLEASURAMA SITE

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ISSN 1753-0970



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## AWARD-WINNER IN A HAZE

Taken from a back garden overlooking Pegwell Bay, this image is the winner of the Campaign to Protect Rural England's Hidden Thanet competition.

The contest was held to show off the beauty of Thanet's fast-disappearing countryside. Chris Randall, a musician and teacher from Ramsgate won the top prize of £100.

He calls the photo Heat Haze Across the Bay and said: "I'm very pleased to have won. I'm a keen photographer and I was stunned to take the top prize."

CPRE's Thanet representative, Colin Bridge, said: "The idea behind the competition was to highlight the fact that a lot of Thanet countryside is under threat from industrial developments and also to encourage people to appreciate the wonderful countryside we still have here."

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE redevelopment of Ramsgate's Pleasurama site will not be delayed by the collapse of part of the cliff façade, Thanet council has assured residents.

The long-running saga of the spot beneath the East Cliff, which has been derelict since a fire in 1997, seemed to be drawing to a successful conclusion in 2003 with the granting of planning permission for a 60-room hotel, seven shops and one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

More than six years on, however, people in Ramsgate are still waiting for the planned Royal Sands complex to surface from the piles of rubble and weeds currently making the site an eyesore for residents and tourists alike.

### Façade

It had been hoped local company Cardy Construction, which has won the contract with developer SFP Ventures (UK) Ltd, would begin work on the project early this year, but now part of the concrete façade has collapsed, leaving a hole eight metres high and three metres wide.

Michael Child, a Ramsgate shop-owner and keen observer of the project who has been blogging about the subject for years, said: "The cliff seems to be in a terrible state and parts of it have collapsed at different times over the years."

"I am not convinced the project can go forward when it is seemingly in such a bad way."

"Cracks and holes have appeared and it is

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**TOP TV CLIPS**



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**2** Julie Maddocks takes the Kent chef tour and visits the best of the county's local food producers. Search 'food'



**3** Gills boss Mark Stimson talks about the weekend games ahead and catching up after the snow. Search 'Gills'

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Printed by Newsfax

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**COLOURFUL FAÇADE:** Artwork painted on Northdown Road's Munro Cobb furniture store

# Shop artwork that covers up a sorry plight

■ BY TOM BETTS

**WINDOWS** of vacant and disused shops in Cliftonville are being decorated with art in a bid to liven up the area.

The idea was put into practice last year in Margate to make the town centre look more attractive and has been moved further east to make the shops in places like Northdown Road more appealing.

Margate was revealed to have the highest level of high-street shop closures in the entire country.

## Emptiness

To combat the sense of emptiness, artwork was placed in windows, an idea which has now spread east.

Labour Cliftonville West ward councillors Linda Aldred, Doug Clark and Clive Hart have welcomed the efforts of the Thanet Community Safety Partnership, which came up with the scheme.

Clr Aldred said: "Pam Pople and the Cliftonville Partnership did a great job over Christmas with the lights outside St Paul's Church and right along Northdown Road and these new colourful shop fronts are an excellent way to start 2010."

The groundfloor of the large and empty former Munro Cobb store is being covered in bold graphic designs with associated poetry.

Nearby the former Albion Bookshop, along with the ex-Baby Shop at the junction with Sweyn Road are also being brightened up in a similar manner.

Clr Clark said: "Projects such as these should help improve civic pride and we are assured they also cut crime. These have to be two key objectives for Cliftonville in 2010."

Clr Hart said: "This is a good start, but sadly there is much more to do. There are dozens of empty shops in Cliftonville and opposite this site the demolition of a former hotel is also taking place following a large fire."

"However, the shop-front projects are a good start to 2010 and we sincerely welcome these initiatives."

So far, four shop windows have been decorated and the Community Safety Partnership has funding to decorate more empty shop windows in Northdown Road.

Lacy Dixon, from the Thanet Community Safety Partnership, said: "This project has already proved to be a great success. It has been welcomed by local residents and businesses and has helped to brighten up Cliftonville during the midst of the recession."

"Visitors from outside of the area have come to admire the windows and it's helped to prevent both arson and criminal damage, with none of the completed windows damaged to date."

**yourthanet**  
**NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Call for witnesses to alleged assault

THERE is a new man in charge at Thanet College.

Graham Razey has just been appointed as the new principal.

Mr is currently the deputy principal at Sussex Coast College in Hastings and will start at the isle college on Sunday, April 18.

Mr Razey said: "I am delighted to be appointed in the role and look forward to leading Thanet College in its journey to being outstanding."

Sue Buss, who has been principal at Thanet College for over six years, will be retiring from the post at the end of March 2010.

## Soft walk that will gladden your art

THE Turner Contemporary organisation is seeking participants for a group walk in Margate with renowned artist Hamish Fulton.

The walk with Fulton will take place around the marine bathing pool, Margate Sands between 9am and midday on Wednesday, March 3.

Participants will walk silently around the perimeter wall of the bathing pool seven times to discover the "meditative quality of walking".

A Turner spokesman said: "This is a chance to do something different, meet and walk with an internationally renowned artist who lives in Kent and to contemplate Margate from a different perspective."

To register for the walk, email [info@turnercontemporary.org](mailto:info@turnercontemporary.org) or visit [www.turnercontemporary.org](http://www.turnercontemporary.org).

## Get in the groove at 70s-80s night

A DISCO with a retro flavour is being held at the Westgate Pavilion this month.

The 70s and 80s night, on Saturday, January 30, is to raise money for the 1st St Peters Scout Group, which wants a new hut.

A spokesman said: "We have managed to secure music legends XYZ to play, which alone is worth the entry fee. Please support a good cause and come and have a good night."

There will also be DJs and other entertainment for the £5 entry fee.



For information and advice on travelling in Kent and for all our traffic regulation orders, please see the Kent on Saturday or the Kent on Sunday or visit our website at [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



# Class of 1970's call to go back to school for photo

■ BY TOM BETTS

DID you go to St John's Secondary Modern School in Margate in 1970?

If so, you may be able to help five ex-pupils who are keen to re-create a photo taken that year.

Forty years after the image were taken, five 'old boys' have come together thanks to a copy of the picture that was scanned and shared via the internet.

When the picture cropped up on the Facebook and FriendsReunited internet sites the idea took shape.

Now the people involved in the restaging attempt are trying to get the 270-plus people who featured back together for a reshoot.

## Memories

The five ex-students, now all in their 50s, met last summer for a drink and they have subsequently contacted many of those in the original picture.

Former school vice-captain Keith Castro said: "Through Facebook, FriendsReunited and emails the five of us shared the original picture and many hilarious memories.

"We followed up with an evening of brain-



**THE BOYS ARE BACK:** Five former St John's pupils who are aiming to get as many former pupils to join them for an updated version of a school photograph taken in 1970

storming and beer and eventually decided we would attempt to re-create the school picture forty years on."

The group are hoping to reshoot the photo on Saturday, June 5.

Keith said: "That gives us roughly five more months to bring everyone together. Sadly, some

close schoolmates have passed away and several others are now living abroad, but we are confident we can get the vast majority of those in the original picture back together for another shot 40 years on."

Other old schoolmates can still get in touch through a website that has been created on which they can also view the original picture and register for the 2010 event.

Richard Hurst, who manages the website, said: "Since June 2009, when we launched, we have had a great response and many people have emailed in.

"We've all been getting together the names of people in the picture and will all be staying in contact. People have also sent in pictures and drawings which will be posted on the site shortly.

"There's a good handful of ex-St John's kids from the class of 1970 now in Australia. I thought transportation finished sooner than that, but hey, it just shows what I got out of history lessons."

The group plans to restage the photograph in its original location – the old St John's School playground.

• **Anyone who attended the school or just knows someone who attended St John's in 1970 can contact the group by emailing stjohns1970@btinternet.com or by calling 07771 289 710.**



**HOLE:** Panel was removed from cliff after fall

## 'Main development will not be delayed'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

just not good enough either to build the development next to it or to support the main access road to it."

However, a spokeswoman for Thanet council, which struck the deal with SFP for the Royal Sands development, said: "There is no reason to believe it has further implications for the stability of the cliff façade or cliff-face as a whole. This blockwork panel is not a load-bearing part of the cliff façade structure."

The cliff-wall part of the project has already cost the council some £985,000 – it is thought the latest problem will add another £15,000 to that figure.

Walker Construction UK Ltd carried out refurbishment work on the façade in 2007, but the appearance of the hole has led to the whole panel being taken down to be rebuilt by council contractors.

The spokeswoman said: "The defect was not present at the time of the 2007 refurbishment works. It was caused by a defect in the 1930s blockwork panel."

"It is a relatively minor repair. It will be completed within the next two weeks and will not delay the main development work."

Cardy boss Michael Stannard told Yourthanet: "Clearly we want to get on with the project, but we will be seeking assurances from Thanet council that the public, as well as our staff, are not at any risk now or in the future."



**INSPIRATIONAL:** Campaigner Jessica Wales

## Signing up to donate your organs the best way to honour Jessica

A YOUNG Westgate-on-Sea woman who had just had a double lung transplant has died.

Jessica Wales lost her fight for life on Wednesday last week.

The 20-year-old suffered from cystic fibrosis and had the transplant over the Christmas period after a suitable donor had been found.

The inspirational youngster had been an active campaigner for organ donation and her courage was praised by a host of high-profile people such as Sarah Brown, the Prime Minister's wife, and singer Natalie Imbruglia.

Sarah Milne, a supporter and friend of Jessica, called the news "very sad" and urged people to sign the NHS Organ Donor Register that Jessica had campaigned for so hard over the last few years.

• If you want to join the NHS Organ Donor Register, or for more information, phone 0300 123 3232; alternatively visit [www.uktransplant.org.uk](http://www.uktransplant.org.uk).



**BAD SIGN?** Euroferries logo has been reverted to the original Fred Olsen Express livery

## Paint job casts fresh doubts over future of new ferry route

THE logo of the company due to be operating a ferry service between Ramsgate and Boulogne has disappeared from the side of the boat earmarked for the route.

Its removal casts further doubt over when the service might start, with the ship's owner, Fred Olsen, saying it now had "nothing to do" with Euroferries, the operator.

The Euroferries logo on the side of the Bonanza Express has been painted over and replaced with the original Fred Olsen livery that was there before.

The company's website still lists the catamaran as the vessel that will make the 75-minute crossings, but the new paint job throws yet more doubt on the future of the route, the opening of which was

delayed twice last year, amid disappointment from customers who had bought tickets to go to France.

Euroferries offered refunds or upgrades for disappointed customers and said the service would start to sail in the new year.

These pictures were taken by a Tenerife resident last week and posted on his website.

A spokeswoman for Fred Olsen, which owns the Bonanza Express, told Yourthanet: "I don't think we are having any dealings with Euroferries right now. As far as I know, we have nothing to do with them at the moment."

The service has been delayed three times over the past year, with start dates in March, August and November all aborted.



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## Residents feel let down by MP says candidate

THE Liberal Democrat candidate for the Thanet North seat in this year's general election has spoken of the desperate need for political change.

Mark Barnard, who will be battling for the constituency covering Margate, Westgate, Birchington, Herne Bay and outlying villages such as Herne and Broomfield, said: "People tell me they are so frustrated by the lack of representation at national and local level, that they feel let down by self-serving MPs lining their own pockets while the rest of us are finding it difficult to make ends meet."

"My commitment is to be accessible and accountable to local people and to represent issues that matter to them."

"Locally, the current cosy relationship between the Tory MP and his friends at the county council does nothing to address the issues of concern to local people."

"We see little improvement in the roads and pavements and there is a need to attract inward investment and jobs."

"I belong to a party that believes that quality of life matters and we still believe that when elected we serve the electorate."

Mark Barnard can be contacted via email at mark.barnard8@btinternet.com.



**LIB DEM:** Mr Barnard

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A date with Ramsgate Olympic Taekwondo Club. Search 'fighting'

# Bin collection will be back to normal soon, assures council

■ BY TOM BETTS

THANET council has taken the unusual step of reassuring residents that their bins will be collected.

The recent bad weather meant collections were suspended for two days, with only back-up collections using smaller trucks taking place in some areas.

A backlog built up and now the authority has issued a statement saying that it will all be taken in due course, with household waste taking priority.

Homes due to have their wheelie-bins emptied on Thursday and Friday, January 7-8, were among those to miss out.

Because there is a two-week gap between refuse collections, many people thought their typical household waste would not be collected for a whole month, but the council says it is trying to combat the build-up.

As a result, bin collections on Thursday and Friday last week were changed, so binmen were only taking non-recyclable materials,

which was a switch from the recycling collections planned.

If the original date of a household's recycling collection was due to be on one of those two days, the council says it will now take it away either tomorrow (Thursday) or Friday.

The change should affect areas such as Nethercourt and Pegwell in Ramsgate, Westbrook, Westgate, Birchington, Palm Bay, Salmestone, Margate and Dane Valley.

To check on your collection, visit the council's website at [www.thanet.gov.uk/databases/refuse/](http://www.thanet.gov.uk/databases/refuse/) or phone 01843 577115.

A council spokeswoman said: "On Thursday, January 28, and Friday, January 29, all recycling, including any that will not fit into your wheeled bin, will be taken by the waste and recycling team.

"If you do want to put extra recycling out for collection on those two days, please put it into

either clear plastic sacks or shopping carrier bags. Please do not put extra recycling into either black sacks or cardboard boxes."

The spokeswoman confirmed that all materials collected from blue lidded bins would be recycled. Blue bins are for paper, card, cardboard, clean foil, cans and plastic bottles.

Shirley Tomlinson, the council's cabinet member for environmental services, said: "We're aware that the suspension of waste collections due to the recent adverse weather left some of our residents waiting weeks for their recycling bins to be collected.

"In response to comments from previous years, we've deliberately given priority to taking the black bins and people's non-recyclable rubbish, as we know that's more important for many residents."

"However, we also know that, at Christmas, people often produce a lot more recycling. That's why we're very happy to take all additional recycling for the properties that were affected by our decision to suspend services."



## ZOE ON A FITNESS PUSH FOR CHARITY

Footballers' Wives and Strictly Come Dancing star Zoe Lucker is calling on the people of Thanet to get fit by taking part in the NSPCC's biggest-ever Aerobathon – or sponsored workout.

More than 150 leisure centres are taking part across the UK, including the Ramsgate Sports Centre, to support the NSPCC Child's Voice Appeal.

The sponsored two-hour aerobic workout will be led by qualified instructors at exactly the same time in each location, on Monday, February 8, from 6pm-8pm.

Ms Lucker said: "I urge readers to take part in the Aerobathon.

"Money raised will help the NSPCC to grow its helpline for adults concerned about a child, and its ChildLine service. This will help protect more children around the UK."

Anna Keir, NSPCC local fund-raising manager, said: "This is the first year the NSPCC has organised the Aerobathon across the UK.

"This is a great way to blitz the New Year calories we tend to accumulate and have fun at the same time, so why not sign up with friends, family and colleagues and encourage anyone you know to sign up, too? We hope to see hundreds of people taking part."

Those who want further details about the Aerobathon – which organisers hope will raise £425,000 across the UK – should visit [www.nspcc.org.uk/aerobathon](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/aerobathon).

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# Cancer tragedy spurs cyclist on epic challenge

■ BY TOM BETTS

A MAN from Broadstairs is taking on an epic cycling challenge to raise money for charity Leukaemia Research.

Three of David Payne's siblings have been affected by blood cancer, prompting his decision to take up the challenge.

David, 50, will cycle 50 miles a day from Paris to London's Great Ormond Street Hospital in February to commemorate Leukaemia Research's 50th anniversary.

He is going to be raising funds in the fight against leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

David, who works as a gardener in Broadstairs, tragically lost two of his siblings to blood cancers.

## Treatment

In 1966, his sister Katie was just four years old when she was diagnosed with leukaemia.

She bravely battled against the disease for three years before dying on October 14, 1969, aged seven.

His family was struck again when David's brother Simon was diagnosed with another blood cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Tragically, Simon lost his fight against the disease in 1995, at the age of 35.

David's younger sister Liz, also from Broadstairs, was also diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1990, aged 23, but thankfully, after a year of treatment and a further 15 years of monitoring, she has made a full recovery.

David says: "I wanted to do this challenge so that in the future no other family has to go through what my family has gone through.

"For it to have happened once is bad enough, but for it to have happened three times is almost incomprehensible."



**RIDE ON:** David lost his sister and brother to cancer

David's solo bike ride will begin in Paris on Sunday, February 7.

He is anticipating some difficult weather conditions but is up for the challenge as he cycles between 20-50 miles most weekends.

The final leg of David's epic journey will take in the 50-mile route from Heathfield in Sussex to Great Ormond Street Hospital.

David said: "The fact that Leukaemia Research is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year really makes you realise how much there is still to do. We're still trying to find answers and if medical advances are to continue then we need to fund the vital research that the charity provides."

If you would like to support David on his cycling adventure and help him to raise vital funds in the fight against blood cancers, then please visit his website at [www.davidsbikeride.co.uk](http://www.davidsbikeride.co.uk).

## Marine experts put offshore site up as European conservation area

A MARINE site off the isle's coast has been short-listed as a potential European area of conservation.

Margate and Long Sands, which sits north of the isle, was pinpointed by marine experts as an area in need of protection due to its sub-tidal sandbanks and biodiversity.

It is one of 12 proposed new marine conservation sites to be considered.

If it becomes a Special Area of Conservation, it will form part of the Natura 2000 network – the group of terrestrial and marine areas designated for preservation under European legislation.

Undersea habitat and fish species which are a food source for seabirds, porpoises and seals would be protected from fishing, recreation and the oil and gas industries.

Consultations between Natural England, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and other interested parties are under way and, following these, proposals will be submitted to the Government.

Ministers will then decide on which areas to

submit to the European Commission in 2010.

Alan Law, regional director for Natural England, said: "The Natura 2000 network of marine protected areas is a vital way of ensuring our most important marine habitats and bird species are effectively protected.

"The consultation on the proposed new sites will create significant opportunities to promote understanding of our precious marine undersea landscapes. The sites protect internationally important marine habitats and bird species in the South East, as required by the EU Habitats and Birds Directives.

"We want to help partners understand why the sites need protecting and how this relates to their own work and functions and what they can do to help conserve the site interests."

Experts will be working closely with the fishing industry to look at ways to combine conservation and fisheries.

UK fisheries minister Huw Irranca-Davies said the sites had been identified to protect habitats and species of national and European importance.

## yourthanet NEWS IN BRIEF

### Club gives thanks for gifts

THE Rotary Club of Ramsgate has offered its thanks to everyone who contributed to its annual Father Christmas tour.

Santa's visits with his sleigh to local schools saw a collection of toys and other presents brought in by pupils. They were then distributed to needy children on the isle.

Primary schools taking part were Chilton, Minster, Newington, Priory, St Joseph's and St Lawrence-in-Thanet.

The collection was given its customary boost by toys provided by the residents of Napleton Court in Ramsgate. They gave more than 150 toys, some of which they had made by hand.

Paul Parpworth, president of the Rotary Club of Ramsgate, said: "On behalf of the Rotary Club of Ramsgate, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the Napleton Court residents and to all the pupils, parents and teachers of all the schools involved."

### Safety drive was on Vue

YOUNG people in the county who drive too fast or choose not to wear seat-belts are being targeted in a hard-hitting campaign.

Launched by Kent Highway Services and the Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership, officials handed out promotional items and offered advice to young motorists at the Vue cinema in Westwood Cross, as the BELT up, SLOW down campaign was taken on tour around pubs, clubs and entertainment venues.

More details about the campaign are available at [www.thinksmastridesafe.co.uk](http://www.thinksmastridesafe.co.uk).

### Broadstairs gets the blues

A SECOND Blues Bash will be held in Broadstairs next month.

Acts such as Broken Biscuit Blues Band, Sam Kelly's Station House Band, Marbletones and the Smokin' Hogs will play in the town, mostly for free.

A spokesman for the event said: "It's all free except for the Saturday night in the Broadstairs Pavilion. It starts on the evening of Friday, February 19 and stretches across six venues, finishing with the massive blues jam on Sunday afternoon."

More details about the event are available at [www.broadstairsbluesbash.com](http://www.broadstairsbluesbash.com).

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A refreshing vibrant welcome drink with an Assortment of Canapes

**To Start...**  
Duck Terrine served with Onion Marmalade and Melba Toast

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**To Follow...**  
Chicken Braised in a White Wine Sauce served with Marquise Potatoes and Medley of Vegetables  
Roast Lamb served with Roast Potatoes and Braised Red Cabbage

Mushroom Risotto with Mixed Salad and Garlic Bread

**For Dessert...**  
Strawberries served with Chantilly Cream and Chocolate Sauce  
Peach Tarte Tatin Served Double Cream

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Kent  
Police

For actions on priorities where you live visit: [www.kent.police.uk/yousaidwedid](http://www.kent.police.uk/yousaidwedid)

To report fly-tipping where you live, contact Thanet District Council on  
**01843 577000** or visit [www.cleankent.com](http://www.cleankent.com)

## Weight Loss Surgery giving you your life back

Free Information Evening

Thursday 4 February 7pm

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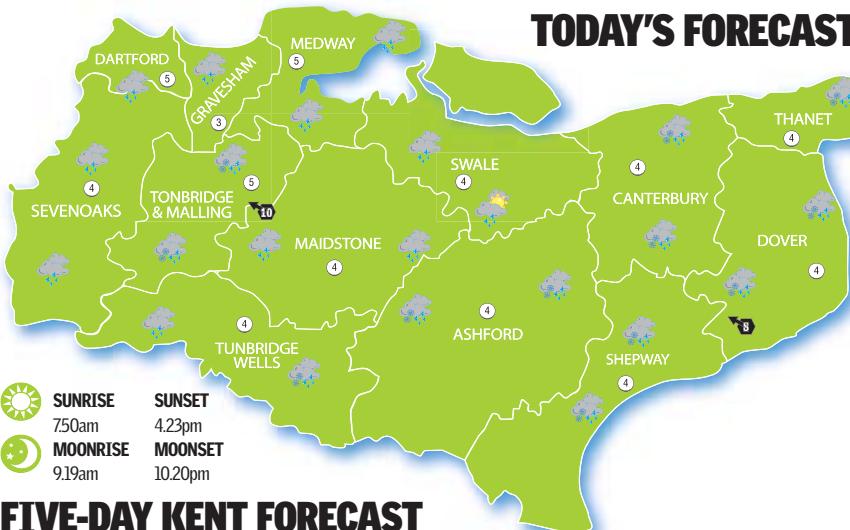
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## TODAY'S FORECAST

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## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

<b>Chatham</b>	Saturday	5:38pm	5.1m
	Sunday	6:35pm	4.9m
<b>Dover</b>	Saturday	3:42pm	5.6m
	Sunday	4:45pm	5.4m
<b>Dungeness</b>	Saturday	3:53pm	6.5m
	Sunday	4:58pm	6.2m
<b>Ramsgate</b>	Saturday	4:12pm	4.3m
	Sunday	5:15pm	4.1m
<b>Sheerness</b>	Saturday	5:27pm	5.0m
	Sunday	6:23pm	4.8m
<b>Whitstable</b>	Saturday	5:15pm	4.7m
	Sunday	6:12pm	4.5m

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	7°C	4°C	6°C	9°C	7°C	Gravesend	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C
Canterbury	7°C	4°C	5°C	8°C	5°C	Maidstone	7°C	5°C	6°C	10°C	7°C
Chatham	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C	Ramsgate	7°C	4°C	5°C	8°C	5°C
Dartford	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C	Rochester	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C
Dover	6°C	4°C	5°C	8°C	5°C	Sevenoaks	6°C	3°C	4°C	8°C	5°C
Faversham	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C	Sittingbourne	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C
Folkestone	6°C	4°C	5°C	8°C	5°C	Tonbridge	7°C	3°C	6°C	9°C	6°C
Gillingham	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C	7°C	Tun Wells	7°C	3°C	6°C	9°C	6°C



## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	3°C	Madrid	12°C
Athens	11°C	New York	3°C
Barcelona	11°C	Paris	4°C
Beijing	-1°C	Rome	9°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	24°C
Cape Town	24°C	Tenerife	28°C
Cardiff	9°C	Tokyo	7°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	10°C
Hong Kong	20°C	Warsaw	-2°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	16°C

## Air pollution on high street causes council to take action

RESIDENTS in St Lawrence high street, Ramsgate, are being asked for their views on plans to declare an Air Quality Management Area in a bid to tackle air pollution.

Traffic levels in the high street are to blame for high nitrogen dioxide levels likely to exceed national guidelines.

It could lead to increased health problems for people with asthma and lung problems, although it is thought this only applies to those living and working in the affected area, not anyone travelling through. The problem was discovered during routine checks by Thanet council's environmental health team.

### Technical

Thanet council has had to declare an Air Quality Management Area to combat the problem and will work with Kent Highways and partners to draw up an action plan.

The area's residents can also help to decide on the exact coverage of the Air Quality Management Area.

The action plan, which will be a detailed, technical document, is likely to take about 18 months to draw up and will help to inform planning policy in the future.

Letters have been sent to some 50 properties, explaining what is going to happen and asking for residents' feedback.

Zita Wiltshire, Thanet council's cabinet member for environmental services, said: "Having identified this as a potential issue, the council needs to take action to try and improve the air quality in St Lawrence high street."

Once the council has received people's views, the issue will be considered by its cabinet early this year.

One Air Quality Management Area already exists in Thanet, around The Square in Birchington.

For up-to-date information on the isle's air quality, visit [www.kentair.org.uk](http://www.kentair.org.uk).

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### SANDRA HART



## Q & A

The district council member for Dane Valley, businesswoman and wife of the Labour leader in Thanet spoke to Tom Betts about being a counsellor as well a councillor – and of being inspired by her mother

**Q** How did it feel when you had found out you had won the by-election before Christmas?

**A** Wonderful. I was delighted that people actually came out to vote on what was an awful day weather-wise. It really confirmed my faith in local people. I was also pleased for all my Labour colleagues who worked very hard during the campaign.

**Q** What are your reflections on the Stephen Broadhurst affair (the former Conservative councillor for Dane Valley who spent much of his time in Panama)

**A** I still find it shocking. How can someone believe they can represent local people from the other side of the world? This situation should never have been allowed to develop and should have been dealt with much sooner. His attitude was compounded by others who buried their heads in the sand and neglected the views of the residents of Dane Valley ward.

**Q** What would you like to achieve in Dane Valley?

**A** I would like to do for Dane Valley what the councillors for neighbouring Margate Central and Cliftonville West are doing for their wards.

These areas were traditionally the last on anyone's list when it came to allocating resources – now they're clear priorities. Dane Valley is a diverse ward with a real mixture of private and rented accommodation.

We also have the beautiful Holy Trinity

Church with its community-focused resource centre, Surestart Millmead; lovely schools; a historic windmill; allotments and one of the district's largest parks. These assets should form the basis for a strong community and I hope to do whatever I can to help achieve that.

**Q** Do you feel you have found your feet as a councillor?

**A** There were a couple of intimidating incidents during my first weeks as a councillor, but I soon put those behind me.

Fortunately, the Labour group at Thanet council is very supportive and the council officers and staff have been very helpful. The festive break has given me a chance to adjust and I look forward to a very active 2010.

**Q** How long have you been interested in local politics?

**A** Like most people, I have developed my awareness of politics during a very busy life, but I am only political with a very small p. I'm more interested in people and wherever I can I like to help them with their problems. I've been doing that, just like most folk, all my life. My only real political beliefs are in equality and fairness, and these guide my thinking.

**Q** What is your day job?

**A** I'm proprietor of a hair salon. That makes me an employer, a working stylist and to

some extent a counsellor, often helping staff and clients over life's little problems. I love it.

**Q** What do you like about running your own business?

**A** For decades I was an employee, so I know the job from both sides. I hope that makes me a good employer who understands the needs of both staff and clients.

It certainly gives me a broad perspective when dealing with problems. My ethos is that I don't expect any of my staff to do anything I wouldn't do myself and we work very much as a team helping each other.

**Q** What do you like to do in your spare time?

**A** Spare time – what's that? Seriously, when I'm not working, attending to paperwork or at meetings, my personal life is also filled with a super extended family, and on days off looking after delightful young grandchildren. I also like reading, walking, swimming and this year I intend to get back into yoga.

**Q** Who is your inspiration in life?

**A** For me, inspiration comes from experience and I have been fortunate to learn from the many people I have come into contact with during my life. However, if I had to name someone in particular, it would have to be my mum.

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## A hole load of expensive trouble for KCC after heavy snow

COUNTY Hall is bracing itself for a torrent of compensation claims linked to the hundreds of potholes forming on Kent's roads.

Motorists forced to pay out for puncture and suspension damage repairs are expected to flood the council's mailbags with demands that the authority should foot the bill, at a potential cost to the taxpayer of tens of thousands of pounds.

The lengthy cold snap has left many of the county's major routes in a state of disrepair, with the potholes creating yet

another hazard for road-users already long fed up with the earlier snow and ice.

Last week KCC was forced to pay out £6,250 to Welling resident Kenneth Atkinson, who suffered a badly-dislocated shoulder after falling from his bicycle in May 2007.

The 76-year-old has since been forced to give up his hobby following the pothole encounter, for which the council initially denied liability.

Mr Atkinson's lawyer Paul Kitson, partner at Russell Jones

and Walker, said: "This case illustrates the difficulties in obtaining compensation from highway authorities.

"They rarely admit liability for accidents involving road defects and it is usually necessary to issue court proceedings.

"The claim was delayed due to arguments between KCC and its third-party contractors [Scotia Gas Networks]. The pothole in question had been repaired previously, but at the time of Mr Atkinson's accident it was five feet long and four inches deep."

The severity of the pothole problem became clear on Tuesday when at least eight drivers had to pull over on the M20 after suffering punctures to their tyres as a result of a particularly deep one.

To make a claim, visit the roads and transport section of [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) and click on 'fault reporting' followed by 'claims for damage'.

- **Would we all be better off driving 4x4s in the county? See this week's Yourblogger on page 14.**



JOB INTERVIEW: Mike Fuller was questioned by MPs

## Fuller puts himself forward as head of Prosecution Service

KENTS Chief Constable Michael Fuller has told MPs why he believes he should be appointed the next head of the Crown Prosecution Service.

Mr Fuller – who is Britain's first black police chief – has been selected by Attorney General Baroness Scotland as the preferred candidate to replace current Chief Inspector Stephen Wooler, whose contract at the CPS expires at the end of March.

An announcement regarding Mr Fuller's future is due to be made tomorrow (Thursday).

Last week he told members of the House of Commons justice committee why he thought he was a more suitable choice for the role than a former judge or lawyer.

### Experience

He said: "While I don't have knowledge of the day-to-day work of a crown prosecutor, I still bring a lot of knowledge of the system and experience of being a stockholder of the CPS."

"I have experience of running organisations and police departments successfully."

Mr Fuller told the committee that adjusting to policy changes and providing value for money represented two of the biggest challenges for the Chief Inspector of the CPS but that he was fully prepared to cope with both.

He also refuted a suggestion by Sleaford and North Hykeham MP Douglas Hogg that the police and CPS had an "incestuous" relationship and were too closely linked for one to be scrutinised by the other.

Mr Fuller said: "Decision-making has always been independent and I think the public would see me as someone who would bring objectivity and scrutiny where it's needed."

"You need a certain degree of knowledge of the CPS and how it works, and more importantly of the rubbing points. I've seen them first-hand and can therefore make recommendations that are credible."

Mr Fuller joined Kent Police as Chief Constable in January 2004, having previously been with the Met since starting as a cadet in 1975.

# Police admit illegal stop and searching

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

KENT Police have admitted using stop-and-search powers illegally in what could prove a landmark case for Kingsnorth Climate Camp protestors.

Lawyers representing Chief Constable Mike Fuller told the High Court the force accepted that its officers wrongfully searched at least three demonstrators – including 11-year-old twins – who attended the summer 2008 rally.

They also admitted that an unspecified number of other protestors could have been unlawfully stopped, potentially opening the door for further legal action to be brought against the police.

Hundreds of similar cases are already going through the system, with one lawyer describing the cost to the taxpayer as potentially "staggering".

However, Mr Fuller's representative Richard Perks told the two High Court judges it was not accepted that the police had secretly applied a blanket unlawful stop-and-search policy at the camp.

He said there had been a "clear and lawful" policy and that the huge majority of those stopped had not been done so illegally but accepted there had been "a misapplication of a clear policy by officers on the ground".



**POLICE UNDER FIRE:** Demonstrators at Kingsnorth have always claimed the police response to the protest was disproportionate to the threat posed by activists

Section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 states that officers must have "reasonable suspicion" that an individual is carrying prohibited weapons or articles that could be used for criminal damage before they are stopped and searched.

Mr Perks added that while guidance given to individual officers was correct and accurate, "on occasions it was misapplied in practice".

The announcement came just hours after the European Court of Human Rights ruled it illegal for police to use terror laws to stop and search people without grounds for suspicion.

Home Secretary Alan Johnson said he was disappointed with the decision and would

appeal against it.

The environmental rally at Kingsnorth in summer 2008 was over E.ON's plans to build a new coal-fired power station, which the company put on hold for up to three years last October.

Politicians, protestors and academics involved in the demonstration have always claimed the police response was disproportionate to the threat posed by the activists.

Officers were also accused of being heavy-handed with the campaigners, seizing hundreds of personal items including soap and board games.

They also took a clown's wig, crayons and highlighter pens belonging to the twin children involved in last week's High Court hearing.

The judges heard how one of the youngsters – who cannot be named for legal reasons – was left "crying and shaking" after a female officer said he had to be searched.

He feared he would "go to prison" because he had stickers in his bag which other people had had confiscated.

Long-standing environmental campaigner David Morris, from north London, was also at the court and said he was forcibly searched against his will.

All three are seeking judicial review into police powers and potential damages.

The case has been adjourned while further evidence is considered before a settlement is reached or a full court hearing called for.

Kent Police declined to comment.

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# Commuters face further fare rise

COMMUTERS across Kent are facing higher travel charges following a Government review of transport policy.

And train passengers parking in many of the station car parks will now also find they have to fork out more money on parking costs.

The changes – which came into effect last week – form part of the Department for Transport's new policy which involves reducing the subsidies it pays into the industry.

As a result, commuter fares for Southeastern's unregulated off-peak tickets have increased by 7.3 per cent, and others by 2.8 per cent. Fares from outside the Travelcard area, including the London Underground, have seen a 1.6 per cent increase. Some ticket prices, however, have stayed the same.

A spokesman for Southeastern said: "Government says the budget for running the cost of the railways should not be paid by subsidies through the taxpayer. The Government has stated that it should be put back on those who use the service – it will not subsidise the cost of the railways like in Europe."

"What Government is doing is reducing the subsidies it pays to us, but to compensate it is allowing us to increase the ticket prices."

Charles Horton, managing director at Southeastern, added: "The majority of our passengers are commuters who travel into London on a daily basis."

■ BY MARIJKE COX

"Most of these are season-ticket-holders and any changes to their fares are regulated by the Department for Transport."

"The Government's stated policy is to reduce the subsidy paid to the transport industry and for passengers to pay more towards the cost of using rail services."

But Tunde Olatunji, South East spokesman for Passenger Focus, an independent rail consumer watchdog, believes commuters will place the blame with Southeastern rather than with the Government.

He said: "Southeastern may use the lack of Government subsidies as its defence, but for the passenger it is Southeastern they pay the money to and therefore the company people will hold responsible for the changes."

"This all comes down to value for money. If costs are increasing, the passengers will want to see the service improving."

Car-parking costs have also gone up at the majority of station car parks in Kent, but Southeastern defended this by saying it was the first change the company had made in 18 months.

"In terms of car-parking, the majority of station car-park prices have gone up by differing amounts," a spokesman said. "This has been done to help cover running costs."

For more information about Southeastern go to [www.southeasternrailway.co.uk](http://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk).

## REGULATED FARES FROM JANUARY 2010

	2009			JANUARY 2010		
STATION	Return £9.80	Monthly £139	Annual £1,448	Return £9.80	Monthly £139	Annual £1,448
Orpington	£22.90	£288	£3,000	£23.30	£292.60	£3,048
Hastings	£46.30	£368.60	£3,840	£47.10	£368.60	£3,840
Ashford Int	£40.60	£362.90	£3,780	£41.30	£368.60	£3,840
Ashford Int	£48.70	£435.50	£4,536	£49.50	£442.40	£4,608
High Speed	£47.00	£366.70	£3,820	£47.80	£372.50	£3,880
Ramsgate	£55.10	£439.30	£4,576	£56.00	£446.20	£4,648
High Speed	£35.90	£345.60	£3,600	£36.50	£351	£3,656
Faversham	£41.30	£415.90	£4,332	£41.90	£422	£4,396
High Speed						

## OFF-PEAK (UNREGULATED) DAY RETURN FROM JAN 2010

	OFF-PEAK RETURN	SUPER OFF-PEAK RTN		
STATION	2009	Jan 2010	2009	Jan 2010
Sevenoaks	£8.80	£9.40	n/a	n/a
Margate (not HS)	£25.30	£27.10	£18.10	£18.60
Hastings	£24.20	£26.00	£18.10	£18.60
Sittingbourne	£16.00	£17.20	£14.10	£14.50
Sittingbourne	£18.70	£20.10	n/a	n/a
High Speed	£24.60	£26.40	£18.10	£18.60
Folkestone Central	£28.70	£30.80	n/a	n/a
High Speed				

## First council houses in 20 years to be built

A NEW batch of council houses is to be built by Thanet council, for the first time in 20 years.

It has received £374,424 of Government funding, which will be used to build five homes on former garage sites in Hugin Avenue and St

Christopher's Close in St Peter's, Broadstairs.

The homes will be allocated using the council's choice-based lettings scheme, allowing house-seekers to express an interest for homes advertised by the council or housing associations.



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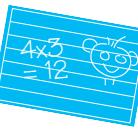
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## BREAK TIME

### Mayoral candidates take to the hustings

A TRIO of students from Chatham House Grammar School in Ramsgate are hitting the campaign trail in a bid to become the next youth mayor of Thanet.

Lauren Courtney, 16, Victoria Sweetingham, 17, and Arthur Ruffy, 13, are all members of Thanet Youth Council and will be speaking at the area's secondary schools in the coming weeks.

A school spokeswoman said: "All three are very passionate about the needs of young people in the area and for a strong student voice to be heard. They believe young people can make a big difference."

Polling stations will be open in schools this month. The new mayor will be based at the Quarterdeck youth centre in Cliftonville.



CAMPAIGN TRAIL: Lauren, Arthur and Victoria

### Kilimanjaro trekkers

STUDENTS from Ramsgate's Marlowe Academy are hoping to trek and climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania in September in a charity fund-raising expedition.

Five sixth-formers are hoping to raise £3,000 each to fund their adventure and the charity Children Today.

**SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)**

# Max picked to tee off for his country

■ BY TOM BETTS

A CHATHAM House Grammar School student who is rated as one of the UK's top young golfers has been selected to play for England.

Max Orrin, from Birchington, will be part of the under-16 team that flies to South Africa for a three-way match with Canada from Thursday, January 7, for ten days.

#### Honour

The 15-year-old said: "It is a terrific honour to play for your country and I am really looking forward to it. I have played for England in the last few months and my record is pretty good.

"I competed against Spain in Liverpool, where I won one match and halved the other, and against Ireland in Bath, where I won all four."

The prospect of playing in the sweltering heat of South Africa is not something that seems to bother Max.

He said: "I have played in America, where it

was very warm and I actually preferred it, so I'm hoping to do well in South Africa for my country."

Max, who plays off scratch and is a member of North Foreland Golf Club, Kingsgate, also represents Kent at under-18 and under-21 level.

#### Professional

He has been playing since he was eight years old and shares his family's passion for golf – his parents and three brothers all play.

His oldest brother, David, a former Chatham House student, recently turned professional and is going to America in January.

Max said: "David and all my family are hugely supportive. Golf is my passion and it's a career I will follow when I leave education. It is all I want to do."

An admirer of the golf of gifted but troubled world superstar Tiger Woods, Max prefers to follow the emerging stars such as Rory McIlroy and Ian Poulter.

With an impressive collection of medals and trophies already to his name, Max firmly believes he has the desire, mental strength and enthusiasm to make it to the very top of his game.



TAKE IT TO THE MAX: The 15-year-old Chatham House student believes he has what it takes to get to the top

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<b>Villa Isis BB</b>	£239	£239	£270	£277	£304	£311	£321	£321	£328	£338	£345	£355	£355	£345	£355	£334	£344
<b>Mayfair / Metropole HFB</b>	£393	£400	£417	£445	£465	£465	£489	£489	£489	£527	£527	£537	£537	£527	£537	£509	£519
<b>Norfolk BB</b>	£260	£260	£277	£284	£325	£325	£335	£335	£335	£345	£345	£362	£362	£359	£369	£362	£365
<b>Runnymede Court</b>	£323	£340	£340	£340	£360	£381	£391	£391	£391	£401	£429	£439	£439	£429	£439	£439	£435
<b>Flight only</b>	£99	£99	£109	£109	£129	£129	£139	£139	£139	£149	£149	£159	£159	£149	£159	£159	£169
<b>No of seats available</b>	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	48	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

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# yourthanetblogger

Gary Wright urges all motorists to report potholes and claim for any resulting damage to their vehicles



## Why weren't our roads ready for the inevitable big freeze?

IF ever there was an argument for driving a huge 4x4, then Kent's roads provide it.

The appalling state of maintenance in this county is highlighted every winter as freezing conditions cause huge cracks to open up.

Potholes cost drivers a heap of cash, wrecking tyres, alloy wheels and suspension. Tyre-dealers doubtless rub their hands with glee, but for the rest of us it's an annual nuisance.

We should not put up with it. But if we have to, then it's time to consider a 4x4 instead of the stylish, economical motors that our green chums would have us all drive.

Report every pothole you see to 08458 247 800. That way the council has to do something and it has been informed.

We all know you can claim for the damage to your car, provided – as the council's website makes clear – you can prove "clear evidence that Kent County Council (KCC) has been

negligent in its role as highway authority". Well, I suggest KCC is always negligent through lack of proper care and preparation.

The council has promised it will blitz our roads and carry out repairs... in March.

That is just not good enough. It means six weeks or so of swerving around the canyons that have opened up in our streets. Surely KCC should address the problem right now?

Freezing weather is no surprise. The fact that our poorly-maintained roads crack up at the first sign of frost is no surprise. So KCC should be prepared, and if it isn't, that's negligent.

I watched KCC leader Paul Carter squirm as Meridian TV interviewed him about the pothole problem. Asked about compensation for wrecked wheels and tyres, he mumbled something about "looking after public money", suggesting not every wrecked car would be paid for out of the public purse.

Shame KCC wasn't so careful with our cash when £50 million was handed over to doomed Icelandic banks, really.

The council's annual budget for potholes is £3 million, apparently, and a spokesman said:

"Kent Highway Services had already set aside an extra £576,000 to take account of an expected increased workload due to bad weather – and the additional £1 million comes on top of this."

It is not enough.

Then Cllr Carter dressed it up by making it look as though it was supporting local business by inviting them to help with the repairs.

He said: "We are keen to use small and medium-sized engineering companies from across Kent. They will be encouraged to bid for tenders to repair our roads as part of our Backing Kent Business campaign. We hope this will provide a welcome boost for local business."

Hmm, I'm not so sure other small businesses running cars and vans will feel quite so supported after shelling out for vehicle repairs.

If your car has been damaged, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/roads\\_and\\_transport](http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads_and_transport) and go to 'fault reporting'. Happy motoring.

### GET IN TOUCH...

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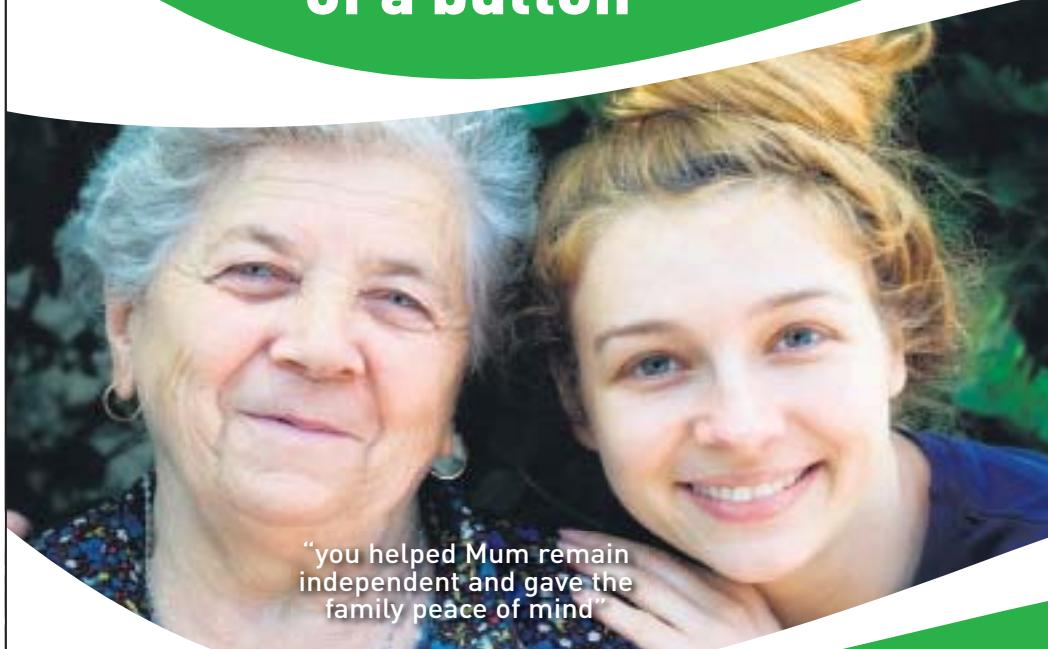
### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on **01303 817022**, or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Thanet blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).

Write to The Editor, Yourthanet, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

\* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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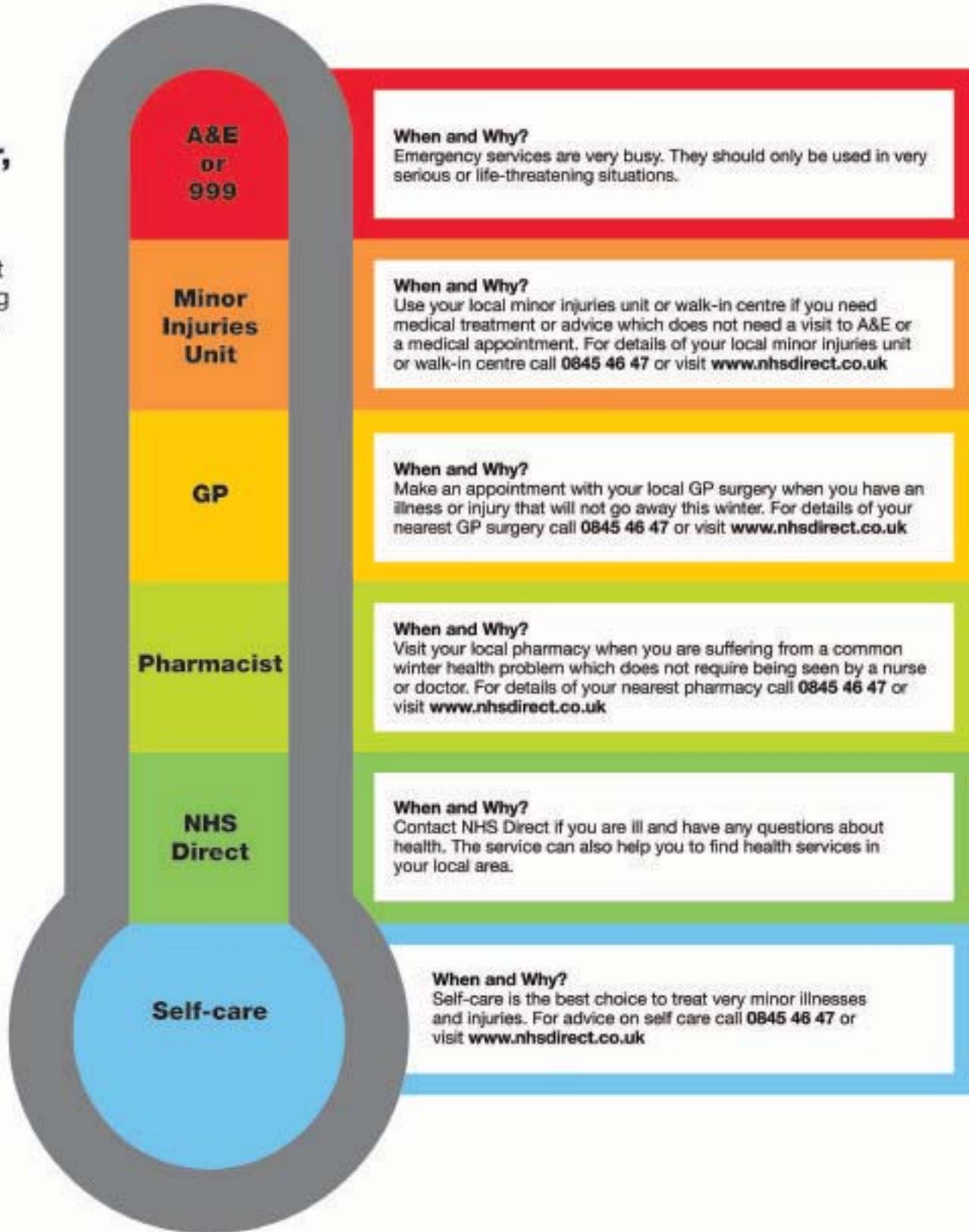
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WITH just weeks to go to Valentine's Day, people are starting to think of the perfect gift for their partner, and often it is men who prove the most challenging to buy for.

Valet Canterbury, a traditional barber shop for the 21st century, is offering four lucky winners the chance to win the ideal experience for the cosmopolitan man, and just in time for Valentine's Day! Anyone wanting their partner to look and feel at their best should make the most of this fantastic opportunity.

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Guy Noble, director at Valet, said: "Valet is all about giving men some time out from their hectic lives. Often men don't organise this for themselves, so this competition allows people to treat their partners and give them the relaxation they deserve, while also convincing them to allocate some me-time in the future."

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For more details about facilities and treatments visit [www.valet-canterbury.com](http://www.valet-canterbury.com).

For a chance to win, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Valet Competition, KOS Media, Apple

Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is February 10, 2009.

**Question: In which city is Valet situated?**

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. Winners must be over 16.

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# yourletters

## TALK TIME

### GARETH HARRIS

Gareth Harris, 40, is a web-developer from Broadstairs – he tells us about the new ThanetKids service



#### What is ThanetKids about, Gareth?

ThanetKids is a website devoted to helping parents and carers find things to do with their children in and around Thanet, whether they live in the area or they're just visiting. There are hundreds of activities and ideas listed – everything from local parent-toddler groups to day-trips to France.

What makes ThanetKids special is that parents contribute to the site by leaving comments and ratings on the places they've visited. If someone has had a great time somewhere, we'd like them to share it with everyone else. This helps other people decide where to take their children.

#### What difference will it make to our lives?

Well, your children might never be bored again – imagine that! The site is organised so that you can search for stuff in different ways and there are several features to generate ideas for things you might never have heard of. If you're a visitor to Thanet, it will give you more options than just the standard visits to beaches and ice-cream parlours. And even if you've lived here all your life, I'm certain you'll find stuff on the site that you never realised existed.

#### What plans do you have for the service and how do people access it?

Go to <http://thanetkids.co.uk>. It's really clear and easy to use. I'd like to see people leaving comments on their favourite activity. We've been amazed at how much there is to do in the area and we believe passionately that ThanetKids can develop into a network that will benefit parents, children and ultimately Thanet itself.

## YOUR LETTERS

### Tory excuses are a load of rubbish

I HAVE received a large number of complaints about the totally inadequate refuse collection service over the Christmas period.

Many households have not had a refuse collection since the week before Christmas. This level of service is totally unacceptable.

When asked about refuse-collection problems over the Christmas period, I am told that Cllr Shirley Tomlinson, cabinet member responsible for the refuse collection service, responded to a resident: "Yes this does fall within my portfolio, but I will leave my director of services to respond as it is more operational".

This reply indicates the total lack of understanding of the problem faced by many households with large amounts of refuse requiring storage.

As Thanet council has apparently been "concentrating on collecting refuse", there is also the growing problem of uncollected recyclables, much of which will inevitably now go to landfill.

It appears Christmas and winter have yet again come as a surprise to the Conservative administration at Thanet council.

**Cllr Alan Poole (Labour)**

**Sir Moses Montefiore ward**

**PS:** While visiting my daughter in Brisbane, Australia, I took the following photo which shows a one-man operated collection service that is collecting refuse and recyclables (they use a divided bin).

This is a weekly service – not

that remarkable, you think, until you realise this collection was 10am on Christmas Day...



### Gale finally wakes up to train issues

I AM pleased to note that Thanet North MP Roger Gale has at last understood that rail-users are looking for representation rather than him spending his time justifying his expenses.

However, this is too little too late. Why did he not make representations during the consultation period?

Furthermore, why did his friends at Kent County Council or Thanet council not resist the changes on behalf of passengers?

Liberal Democrats had been lobbying Southeastern about the changes to the timetable as far back as October 2009!

Indeed, such was the concern on behalf of railway-users and the disinterest and inaction of our local Member of Parliament that local activist Bill Furness gained the support of LibDem Member of Parliament Norman Baker.

Mr Baker wrote to Southeastern asking that it rethink the changes to the timetable.

It is incredible that the local MP has shown little or no support for those relying on the rail network for work, as well as

the many leisure-users.

Liberal Democrats lobbied Southeastern as soon as the proposed new timetable was proposed.

Following the representations, Southeastern stated: "Whilst we believe that the high-speed services will be popular, we accept that for some passengers the new timetable may not be welcome."

Rail passengers have been abandoned by Mr Gale, who is only now waking up to the impact of the changes. His intervention will do nothing to change the timetable, which has been in place for several weeks.

There is no doubt that Mr Gale is in election mode and exposing his blatant disregard for his role as elected representative when it really counts.

This time he is standing on the wrong platform – the passengers who needed him earlier will not be hoodwinked.

**Mark Barnard (Liberal Democrats)**  
Thanet North Parliamentary candidate

### Opt for change in the next election

AS the date for the general election is drawing near, those of us who are actively campaigning for a monumental change of government call on the citizens of this country to vote for new people to enter Parliament.

We must clear out all the corrupt MPs who have claimed excessive expenses and start afresh with an injection of new blood. We need honourable people dedicated to serving their country and to serving their fellow citizens.

The traditional parties have let us down. They are bankrupt of ideas.

We call on people to vote according to their principles and according to their beliefs. The smaller political parties can produce men and women of talent; and those of us active in UKIP believe that we have first-class policies and first-class people to carry them out.

We urge people to vote as their hearts direct.

Let us change this country for the better.

**John Pool (UKIP member)**  
Broadstairs

### Voluntary groups still shining bright

THE snow that has been affecting the country has had a massive impact.

Bad weather has hit everywhere from Cornwall to the north of Scotland, placing huge demands on the emergency services.

We should all be incredibly proud of the way these vital services have continued to operate, getting help to those most in need in the face of extreme and dangerous conditions.

The British Red Cross and other voluntary community organisations have also had a role to play in ensuring these lifelines have continued.

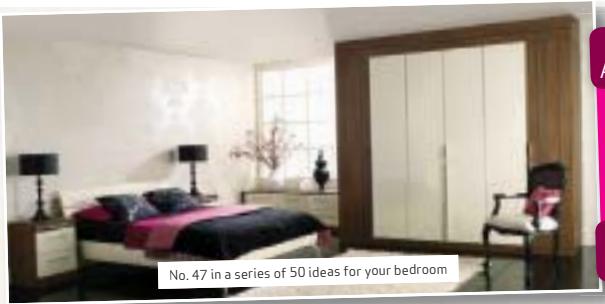
With emergency services stretched right across Britain, our volunteers, equipped with four-wheel-drive Land Rovers, have come into their own.

Working tirelessly to support the emergency services and ensure help gets through to those in need, their courage and dedication should be saluted.

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volunteers can play a vital role in responding to emergencies.

In the UK, the Red Cross has tens of thousands of volunteers skilled in fields as diverse as first aid, practical and emotional support and the coordination of emergency support.

Particularly in light of current pressures on public spending, we urge that this government, and future governments, commit themselves to continuing to harness and support voluntary organisations to ensure the help we provide can continue.

**Sir Nick Young**  
British Red Cross

## Your festive kindness will help change lives

I AM writing on behalf of the Rotary Club of Ramsgate to express our gratitude for the wonderful generosity of the people of Ramsgate and Minster.

Our collections with Father Christmas and his sleigh around houses and shops in the run-up to Christmas raised the magnificent sum of £5,667 (many thanks to Dunelm Mill, Sainsbury's, Tesco Extra and Tesco Manston for allowing us to collect at their stores). We'll donate this money to

charities and other worthy causes, many of them local such as the Dumpton Youth Project.

One of the main charities we're supporting this year is Let's Face It, a locally-based charity that helps people coping with facial disfigurement.

A full list will be available on our website. Visit [www.rotary1120.org](http://www.rotary1120.org) and click on 'Ramsgate'.

Our thanks also to pupils, staff and parents of the local primary schools (Chilton, Holy Trinity, Minster, Newington, Priory, St Joseph's and St Laurence-in-Thanet) who took part in our annual toy collection, along with the wonderful residents of Napleton Court, Ramsgate.

Between them they donated many hundreds of toys and other presents, which the KCC social services department very kindly distributed to local disadvantaged children.

**Paul Parpworth**  
President of Rotary Club of Ramsgate

## BBC fails to provide us with any quality

I AM a Radio 4 listener, but no longer a satisfied one.

PD James, guest editor on the Today programme, burst director-general Mark Thompson's bubble by

demanding to know how he could defend staff salaries and asking where could they find better terms with BBC's independent competitors.

He came over as unconvincing and contradictory. PD James was defending BBC licence-payers' best interests, but there is a long way to go to repair the damage done to the BBC under John Birt and his successors' regimes.

BBC TV in my opinion transmits virtually no programmes of quality content, or if it does, it's more by accident than design. The tone and content of broadcasting has become condescending towards its patrons.

The lack of transparency, one-sidedness and sycophancy towards politicians in particular is regrettable. I no longer rely on the BBC for home news, which is reprehensible from a British broadcaster.

BBC TV news and the trivial treatment of socio-economic suffering of millions of licence-fee-payers also demonstrates insensitivity and is unworthy of BBC management whose over-generous pay, allowances and reason-for-being derives from the public's purse.

I would be interested to take part in maintaining public accountability at the BBC.

Rita Grootendorst  
by email



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# yourleisure

# Funnier than a broken record

## Comedy legends are sketching out their success

### PAPPY'S

Thursday, February 4  
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



LOCAL heroes return to Canterbury next month to attempt a world record with their lightning wit.

Pappy's are an award-winning comedy trio who have taken the circuit by storm with their ridiculous humour and silly characters. Now they have set their sights on a place in the record books by performing 200 sketches in an hour.

The trio have just had a fantastic year in which they enjoyed a sell-out run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and earned five-star reviews for their uplifting show. Previously they had

recorded their own shows for Channel 4 and Radio 4, appeared on BBC3's Comedy Shuffle and ITV2's Comedy Cuts and received a number of award nominations. In 2008 they won the Chortle Best Sketch Act Award and the plaudits keep coming for their imaginative work.

Pappy's Fun Club started out as four students – Matthew Crosby from Bromley, Tom Parry, Ben Clark and Brendan Dodds – who performed comedy to entertain their friends; the three of them had met at the University of Kent.

Before long they had been nominated for the If.Comedy Best Show Award at Edinburgh, a prestigious accolade that got their comedy careers off to a flying start.

The team like to gig on the stand-

up club circuit and in that environment bringing down the 'fourth wall' erected by many sketch troupes has been invaluable.

The performers address the audience directly and like to react to anything that might be happening in the room during sketches.

Their success on the circuit and at Edinburgh resulted in TV interest, including a 22-minute Comedy Lab for Channel 4. Pappy's had the chance to work with Ash Atalla, producer of The Office, and relished the chance to translate their stage material to the screen.

They went on to perform around the world and draw high praise from critics, though Dodds left the group at the end of last year and the remaining trio decided to continue under the name Pappy's.

You can see them attempt to break a world record when the show, which is suitable for over-14s, starts at 7.45pm. Tickets cost £12 or £10 for Encore!Gulbenkian members. To book, phone 01227 769075 or visit [www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk).



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## FOOTLOOSE

Thursday to Saturday,  
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Winter Gardens, Margate

TALENTED young performers tread the boards in the musical Footloose.

Regency Productions' vibrant version of the popular show boasts more than 40 performers from the local area, with dancers as young as six keen to show off their skills.

Many students of Regency's budding performing arts school take lead roles, including Ben Stace from Margate.

Along with James Jones from Ashford, he plays young rebel Ren, who wants to shake up a town where dancing is banned.

Danielle Surrage and Alice Dawn-Vane share the role of feisty minister's daughter Ariel, while all the performers get to show what



they can do during the stirring dance routines and well-harmonised musical numbers.

Featuring such unforgettable songs as Footloose and Holding Out For A Hero, the show is an infectiously energetic musical which proves

that some people have just got to dance.

Performances start at 7.30pm daily, with a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday.

Phone the box office on 01843 292795/296111 or visit [www.margatewintergardens.co.uk](http://www.margatewintergardens.co.uk).

## FAIRPORT CONVENTION

Saturday, January 30  
Theatre Royal Margate

WITH more than 40 years in the business, Fairport Convention are one of the biggest bands in folk.

Named after the family home where they held their early rehearsals, the band have earned legendary status on the folk scene and attracted celebrity fans such as the late John Peel.

Since the band came into existence in 1967, such artists as Richard Thompson and Sandy Denny have passed through the ranks.

A tragic road accident in the late 60s robbed the band of drummer Martin Lamble, but the band survived the tragedy and went on to record the classic album, Liege and Lief. When they decided to stage a farewell



concert in the Oxfordshire village of Cropredy, followed by a reunion show the next year, the famous folk festival of the same name was born.

The current line-up features founding member Simon Nicol on guitar and lead vocals, Dave Pegg on

bass and backing vocals, Ric Sanders on violin, Gerry Conway on percussion and multi-instrumentalist/vocalist Chris Leslie.

The concert starts 7.30pm and tickets cost £18. To book, phone the box office on 0845 130 1786 or 01227 787787.

## ST NICOLAS

Saturday, January 23  
Canterbury Cathedral

THE joy of childhood is celebrated in Benjamin Britten's playful work St Nicolas.

Canterbury Choral Society performs the work as its first concert of the year, demonstrating the contrast of lightness and seriousness that makes St Nicolas such a unique piece.

As the patron saint of sailors, scholars and children, St Nicolas was the perfect inspiration for this celebration of youthfulness.

Children are involved in the work, so the Choral Society Youth Choir will be appearing as the semi-chorus.

Soloist Timothy Robinson studied music at New College Oxford, then at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He has sung in a diverse range of operas such as Falstaff, Tristan and Isolda, as well as working with many great orchestras. These include the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

The programme also features Michael Tippett's joyful Concerto for Double String Orchestra, Percy Grainger's Handel in the Strand and Londonderry Air and Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings/Agnus Dei.



## THANET LEISURE

### Children learn French the fun way at theatre

CHILDREN can learn to speak French the fun way by joining a course at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate.

Drama coach Jayne Frew's course features drama, games and song every Saturday until March 13. The hour-long classes for children aged from five to seven start at 10am, followed by sessions for eight- to 10-year-olds at 11.15am.

Sessions cost £4. For details, phone Trudi Kingham on 01843 855000 or email [t.kingham1@btinternet.com](mailto:t.kingham1@btinternet.com).

### Be wise, take wine and raise money for club

TEST your knowledge while raising money for the Sarah Thorne Theatre Club this weekend.

A Wine and Wisdom evening is being held at the Memorial Theatre in Broadstairs on Saturday. A bar will be available, but contestants should bring their own food, wine and glasses.

The fun starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £5. To book, phone the box office on 0845 262 6263.

### Band just the first of great line-up at hotel

FOR an evening of live music, head down to the Comfort Inn in Ramsgate.

On Friday, the Jeff Barker Band will provide the entertainment and there are more gigs lined up.

For hotel details, phone 01843 592345 or visit [www.comfortinnramsgate.co.uk](http://www.comfortinnramsgate.co.uk).

### Rock and boogie are all covered by Cold Shots

INDIE and rock fans can enjoy an evening of great live music in Ramsgate on Saturday.

Cold Shots cover rock hits from the likes of Jet, Feeder, Oasis and Kings of Leon. The band also have a boogie element. You can find out more at [www.myspace.com/coldshotsrock](http://www.myspace.com/coldshotsrock).

Cold Shots are at the Churchill Tavern in The Paragon at 9pm on Saturday. For details of the venue, call 01843 587862.

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31<sup>st</sup> January 3pm  
PROTEUS THEATRE COMPANY

**A Streetcar Named Desire**  
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LIBRA PRODUCTIONS

**Charles Ross**  
One Man Lord of the Rings  
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*Some of the recipients of grants and awards (from top left) Saheli Writers, Gravesend Pier; Ashford Valley Riding for the Disabled, Godinton House; Shepway Blind Support Group, Lydd Airport; Highways at Hamstreet, Folkestone Leas; Herne Bay Roller Hockey, Herne Bay; Royal School for the Deaf, Margate; Abbey Physic Community Garden, Faversham; Hextable Rangers FC, Brands Hatch; Lewis March, Reculver.*

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Distinguished by an incendiary lead performance from Andy Serkis, *Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll* is a biopic of 1970s punk pioneer Ian Dury that is as unconventional and fantastical as the man himself.

THE ROAD (15)



The future isn't bright in John Hillcoat's Oscar-tipped, post-apocalyptic thriller, adapted by Joe Penhall from the novel by Cormac McCarthy, who also wrote *No Country For Old Men*.

UP IN THE AIR (15)



George Clooney plays a loveless man who earns his living by flying around America and making total strangers redundant in Jason Reitman's comedy drama.

# Grown-up romance gets complicated

■ BY KATE WHITING

MOST romantic comedies follow a basic plot of boy meets girl, but the title of Nancy Meyers's latest film suggests there's a lot more to relationships than that.

*It's Complicated* stars Meryl Streep and Alec Baldwin as a middle-aged couple who start an affair – ten years after they got divorced.

Streep plays mother-of-three Jane, who owns a bakery and restaurant in Santa Barbara, California, and is on good terms with her ex-husband Jake (Baldwin).

The old flame begins to flicker again when they stay at the same hotel in New York for their son Luke's graduation, and end up reminiscing about their 19-year marriage over a drink or three.

With attorney Jake now married to a younger woman, Jane soon becomes the "other woman".

Things get even more complicated when it turns out that the architect helping to build Jane's dream kitchen, played by Steve Martin, is ever-so-slightly in love with her.

The film garnered a whole slew of Golden Globe nominations, including Best Actress in a Comedy or Musical for Streep, Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy, and Best Screenplay for writer/director Nancy Meyers.

Baldwin believes Meyers, who brought us *Baby Boom*, *Father Of The Bride* and *What Women Want*, has created something more mature than the standard romcom.

"To me, Nancy's movies are adult romantic comedies – they're a little more honest than



**NOMINATED:** Meryl Streep was nominated for a Golden Globe for her portrayal of Jane in *It's Complicated*

young people's romantic comedies," he says. "Romantic comedies for young people seem to be a little crazy to me. Everybody is doing incredibly stupid things to try and get a laugh. And it is funny, but when you're appealing to an older audience, you need to be a little more dramatic, because the stakes are higher."

"But at the same time you have to keep it light, it is a weird balance to strike and Nancy is so good at that kind of movie."

Meryl Streep has recently carved herself a comedy niche, with memorable roles in

**VIEW THIS PREVIEW**

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*Mamma Mia!* and last summer's *Julie And Julia*, for which she won best actress at the Golden Globes awards ceremony.

She was the actress Meyers had in mind to play Jane – and she instantly loved the script and the screenwriter's sensitivity to such a universal subject. "Nancy has tapped into something deep about families who've encountered divorce... or anybody who has been abandoned by someone they love," says Streep.

But it was the draw of her leading men that proved irresistible. "They're just so wildly and inventively funny, I love them both," she said of Baldwin and Martin.

**IT'S COMPLICATED** Certificate 15



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mini-skirt, price £18**DEBENHAMS**

Red Herring tier dress, price £35

## THANET SHOPPING

### Isle movie Ruby Blue is out on DVD next month

AWARD-WINNING Kent film Ruby Blue will be available to buy on DVD from Monday, February 1.

Filmed locally by Isle-based company Medb Films, the movie starred Bob Hoskins and won numerous accolades, such as Best Film at the London Independent Film Festival and the Grand Jury Best Film Award at the Washington DC Independent Film Festival.

The DVD can be pre-ordered at [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk).

### Hairy Bikers are riding into Bluewater today

FANS of the Hairy Bikers will want to make tracks to Bluewater when the TV stars pay a visit.

Si King and Dave Myers will be at Waterstone's at 5pm today (Wednesday) to sign copies of their new cookery book.

Mums Know Best: The Hairy Bikers' Family Cookbook accompanies a new TV series in which they look at the culinary gems passed down through generations.

The book is priced at £20. For more information, phone 01322 624831.

### Give your taste buds a genuine taste of Italy

ENJOY a taste of Italy on a budget with Carluccio's bargain Menu Della Casa.

The Italian cafés in Canterbury, Tunbridge Wells and Bluewater are inviting diners to try a two-course meal for just £8.50.

Using finest-quality ingredients from Italy, the menu offers starters and main courses. The price also includes your choice of exclusive Napoli or Milano coffee.

The offer runs until the end of February. For more information, visit [www.carluccios.com](http://www.carluccios.com).

### Become a Down Under beauty at Debenhams

DISCOVER the Australian beauty range Natio for less with a new offer available at Debenhams.

The products are stocked at the Chatham and Gravesend stores, giving Kent customers the chance to sample this big hit from Down Under.

And until Sunday, January 31, shoppers can enjoy £5 off all foundations.

See the on-counter offers at Debenhams in Chatham and Gravesend for more information.

### Get yourself fit and healthy the RAF way

MAKE a change for the better this year with the RAF Fit For Life exercise guide.

If your New Year fitness regime has already faltered, try a sensible and long-term solution by following the simple tips that RAF personnel use to get in shape and stay fit.

The guide can be downloaded at [www.raf.mod.uk/careers](http://www.raf.mod.uk/careers), where a short video with two of the RAF's physical-training instructors and more fitness information can also be found.

## Thanet's Live Music Scene

Saturday 23rd January

**Jeb**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 23rd January

**Crazy Train**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 30th January

**Blow**

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 30th January

**Purity**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Thursday 4th February

**Charity Cockney Night**

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Saturday 6th February

**Wheres My Thing**

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 6th February

**Phatt B-Stards**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Friday 12th February

**Damage Case**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 13th February

**As Is Now**

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 13th February

**Hard Road Blues Band**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Friday 19th February

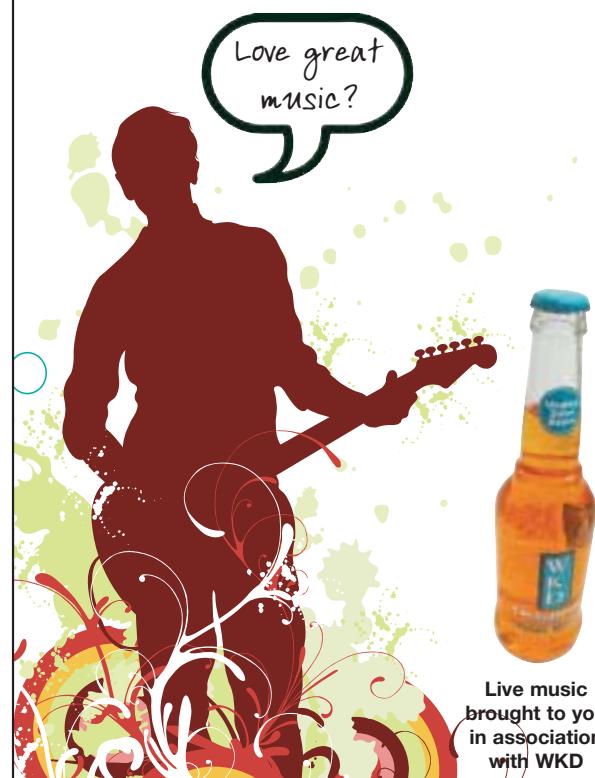
**Breed**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 20th February

**Tortilla Army**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713



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# MONEY MATTERS

## New dawn for the economy

Inside your pull-out supplement

- Be prepared for VAT changes
- Focus on mergers and acquisitions
- Claim your share of the wealth
- Cut back on your household spending
- Consider your children's future

- Save money with a new car
- Taxing issues for drivers
- Simple steps put you on the greener road
- Shattering myths could save you pounds
- Does scrappage have a future?

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VAT-registered businesses in Kent are being urged to get ready for major changes to VAT return filing and payment coming in April.

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has sent a leaflet to all 1.9 million VAT-registered businesses to alert them to the fact that, from April 1, 2010, those with an annual turnover of £100,000 or more, excluding VAT, will have to file their VAT returns online and pay their VAT electronically.

Under the changes, businesses registering for VAT on or after April 1 will also have to file their return online and pay electronically, whatever their turnover.

Every year, around 5,200 businesses register for VAT in Kent.

The average number of businesses registering for VAT each year by area is:

- Medway 619
- Ashford 481
- Canterbury 397
- Dartford 299
- Dover 247
- Gravesham 258
- Maidstone 545
- Sevenoaks 508
- Shepway 286
- Swale 377
- Thanet 313
- Tonbridge and Malling 401
- Tunbridge Wells 454

HMRC told all VAT-registered businesses in the county to take notice of the changes, as well as local firms who are planning to register for VAT in the coming months.

To file a VAT return online, businesses new to HMRC's online services need to register for the VAT Online service by visiting [www.online.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.online.hmrc.gov.uk), clicking 'register' under the 'new user' section and then following the instructions.

Current HMRC online service users can add VAT Online to their portfolio in the 'Services you can add' section of 'Your HMRC services'.

HMRC's Stephen Banyard said: "Filing your

# VAT return dread? Click on to a new system

VAT return online has a number of benefits: it's secure, convenient, does arithmetical checks and calculations for you, and provides you with an immediate online acknowledgement that your online return has been safely received by us.

"So, if your turnover is £100,000 or more, and you're not already filing your VAT return online, sign-up now for VAT online services – that way, you'll avoid a last-minute rush, and be able to enjoy the benefits of online filing sooner rather than later."

HMRC will also be sending formal letters in February to all existing businesses affected by the new online filing and electronic payment requirements, confirming that in future they must file online.

and pay electronically.

And, from  
April



1, a letter explaining the requirement to file online will be included in all registration packs issued to newly registering VAT businesses. Both letters will be accompanied by a guide on registering for VAT Online.

Further help and advice, including an online demonstrator and a step-by-step guide to filing online, is available on HMRC's website at [www.hmrc.gov.uk/vat](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/vat), or by calling its VAT helpline on 0845 010 9000 between 8am and 8pm, Monday to Friday.

**GO ONLINE:** A new simpler system to file your tax return has been set up by HMRC online

## Essential guide to where you can save

- KOS Media is offering a pair of classic Queen Anne style nesting footstools, £29.99
- Sink Ports kitchens and bathrooms in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off bathrooms
- FG Barnes Motors in Maidstone is offering £39.99 for MOTs
- KOS Media is offering a saving of £20 on a versatile Powertec Folding Wheeled Chair
- Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering air conditioning servicing for £79.95 + VAT
- Robins and Day Motors in Maidstone is offering MOTs from £29.99 and a service and MOT from £119.99
- KOS Media is offering an Inovalley USB Turntable for only £99.99
- Baileys Nissan Motors in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off MOTs
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a room on a Friday evening before March 31, 2010, for £39 if you book now
- Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Motors in Tunbridge Wells is offering £250 off a used vehicle when you present this voucher
- KOS Media is offering a football history book for £49.99
- Old Sawmills furniture store in Ashford is offering 20 per cent off

To get these offers go to:

[www.vouchersforkent.co.uk](http://www.vouchersforkent.co.uk)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

# Mergers and acquisitions:

## ISSUES FOR BUYERS

BUYING a business involves many risks. If a buyer is not careful, he may end up paying more than just the agreed purchase price. However, with careful planning and proper advice, these risks can be reduced.

The most important factor is to know what you are buying. This may seem an obvious point, but if you are buying shares in a company, you are buying all assets and liabilities of that company, whether known or unknown, actual or contingent.

Due diligence is vital, therefore. This will involve scrutinising the target's financial and tax records, cash-flows and budgets, business and employment contracts, properties and other assets.

The price will probably be agreed with the seller before due diligence takes place, but a buyer must not be afraid to renegotiate if due diligence throws up issues or liabilities which were not expected.

The price payable for the business can be structured in many ways. It is rare nowadays for a buyer and seller to agree a fixed price, all of which is payable on the date of the acquisition. The price can be payable in instalments and occasionally the value of the instalments are calculated by reference to the profits or turnover of the business during the intervening period (known as an earn-out). It is also quite common for the price to be adjusted by reference to accounts of the business which are prepared as at the date of the acquisition, so the buyer is paying for the assets and liabilities on the balance sheet at that date.

If the target business is a company, the buyer may choose to buy the shares or the assets from the company. Buying shares is generally more risky for a buyer. It means buying the company 'lock, stock and barrel' and inheriting any skeletons in the company's cupboard. It is actu-

ally a much simpler structure and likely to be favoured by sellers. Buying assets may be more tax-efficient for the buyer and it allows the buyer to cherry-pick the specific assets it wants, but it will involve the complexities of transferring individual assets and having to renew or assign contracts with customers and suppliers.

The principle method for a buyer to protect itself against unknown liabilities post-acquisition is to obtain warranties from the seller.

Warranties are statements of fact relating to the business which are relied on by the buyer as being true. If a warranty subsequently turns out to be untrue, the buyer will be able to claim damages for breach of warranty. The warranties often take up a significant proportion of the purchase contract and a lot of time is often spent negotiating their terms and application.

## Compensation

The warranties serve two purposes: Firstly, they force the seller to disclose any information it knows about a warranty which is untrue, so the buyer has a full picture of what it is buying. Secondly, the warranties serve as a price adjustment mechanism by enabling the buyer to claim compensation for damages, losses or liabilities arising from a warranty being untrue, effectively reducing the price of the business.

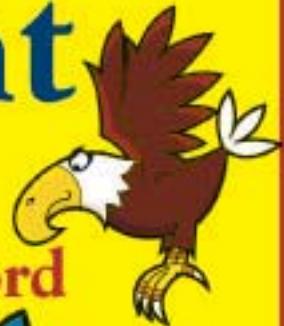
Employees are often key to a business, but sometimes a buyer will not want or need all of the seller's employees. However, a buyer will inherit responsibility for all of the seller's employees, so careful consideration is necessary before any redundancy decisions are made, either by the buyer or the seller.

The acquisition of a business should be a stepping stone for greater success and profits for a buyer. Buyers must ensure that the terms of the acquisition fully protect them against it being an expensive mistake.

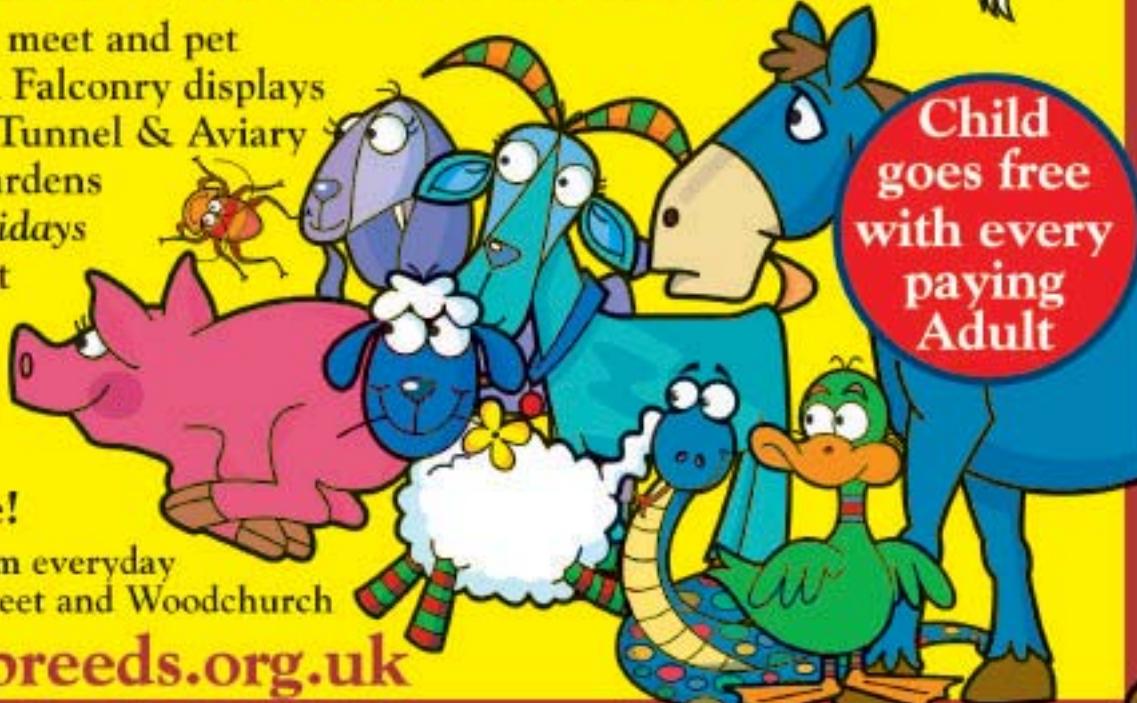


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# what you will need to know...

**DONE DEAL:** Make sure you are aware of the risks of buying and selling a business before a deal goes ahead



## ISSUES FOR SELLERS

A BUSINESS owner is likely to have shed blood, sweat and tears in making their business as successful as possible. Unless it is a family business and the next generation is ready to pick up the reins, these efforts will hopefully culminate in selling the business or, for the more ambitious, floating it on a stock exchange.

In light of this almost inevitable endgame, it is surprising how few business owners are prepared for the issues and procedures which will be relevant when the time for exit arrives. Being underprepared may result in receiving less than full value for the business.

Business owners must plan for their exit well in advance. Some of the most important things to ensure are also the most obvious, but that does not always mean they are observed.

The business structure must be established in a way which makes the sale as straightforward as possible. For example, if the business is operated through a company, are there any divisions, properties or assets which need to be extracted from the company before a sale?

All corporate and commercial documents relating to the business must be complete and up to date. They will be scrutinised during a buyer's due diligence, so do not give the buyer any excuse to delay or renegotiate the terms of the sale.

Key employees of the business should be signed up to employment contracts which comply with current employment legislation and contain enforceable restrictive covenants. The employees may be a valuable ingredient in the business, so a buyer will want to be satisfied that they are tied, as well as they can be, to the business.

If the business relies on unique intellectual property rights, it is imperative to ensure that these rights are protected as much as possible, whether by way of patent, trade mark, registered design rights, copyright or even simple confidentiality provisions.

Careful tax planning will also be key. The sale of shares in a company will almost certainly result in a lower tax bill for shareholders compared to the company selling its business and assets. This is because the company will have to pay corporation tax on its gains before the balance of proceeds can be distributed to its shareholders. However, there are exceptions to this rule, so always review the position early with a tax advisor.

When approaching potential buyers, it is important that sellers do not disclose too much information without first procuring signed confidentiality undertakings from the recipients of any information, to protect the business' trade secrets, customer and employee lists, pricing policies and other sensitive information.

### Debenture

If a buyer makes an offer which includes an element of the purchase price being payable after the date of sale (possibly on an earn-out basis), the seller should consider what protection they require.

For example, should the buyer provide some form of security over the deferred element, such as a bank guarantee or debenture? If the deferred amount is dependant on future turnover or profits of the business, should there be provisions requiring the business to be conducted in the same manner as it was conducted before the sale? Careful consideration should also be given to the tax implications of any deferred element of the purchase price because, without careful planning, it is possible that tax will be payable on the full value of the purchase price, even if only some of it is paid on the date of sale.

There are many additional issues which need to be considered by sellers before they embark on the exit process, but hopefully this article highlights a handful of the most significant factors.

- *Nicholas Gabay, Partner Corporate & Commercial Department, Thomson Snell & Passmore.*

## CROSSKEYS COACHES DAY TRIPS AND TOURS



### January

Wednesday 20th	Maidstone & Newnham Court Shopping Village	£7.50
Saturday 23rd	Brighton Ice Show	£34.00

### February

Monday 1st	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Thursday 4th	Ikea & Lakeside	£16.50
Saturday 6th	De Panne	£19.50
Monday 15th	Dickens World	£16.00
Thursday 18th	Boulogne & Nausicaa	£25.00
Saturday 20th	Disneyland, Paris	£67.50

### March

Monday 1st	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Sunday 7th	London Eye & Thames Cruise	£37.50
Tuesday 9th	Westfield Shopping Centre	£17.00
Saturday 13th	De Panne	£19.50
Friday 19th	The Stitch & Craft Show 2010 at Olympia	£22.00
Sunday 21st	Yesterdays World & Battle Abbey	£16.50
Wednesday 24th	Ideal Home Exhibition	£28.00
Thursday 25th	Boulogne	£24.00
Saturday 27th	Bruges	£32.00
Wednesday 31st	Kensington Palace	£25.00

### April

Sunday 4th	Dickens World	£16.00
Sunday 4th	Chatham Dockyard	£16.00
Tuesday 6th	Montreuil	£26.00
Friday 9th	Tower of London	£29.00
Saturday 10th	Disneyland, Paris	£67.50
Monday 12th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Thursday 15th	Druisillas Park	£26.00
Saturday 17th	Calais & Cite Europe	£19.00
Tuesday 20th	Montreuil	£26.00
Thursday 22nd	Boulogne	£24.00
Sunday 25th	London Eye, Carvery & Cruise	£59.00
Wednesday 28th	St Omer	£28.00

### May

Saturday 1st	Finchcocks	£28.50
Wednesday 5th	Rural Life Centre, Farnham, Surrey	£25.00
Thursday 6th	River Cruise & Country Drive	£19.00
Sunday 9th	Monets Gardens	£42.00
Monday 10th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Wednesday 12th	Leeds Castle	£20.50
Friday 14th	Cambrai - Notre Dame de Grace	£27.00
Tuesday 18th	Denbies Classic Winery & Vintage Train Tour with Cream Tea	£38.00
Thursday 20th	Boulogne	£24.00
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

By JEREMY GATES

AS A new year begins, the search for shares and managed funds with 'hot' prospects will continue for small investors seeking to supplement their income.

In the Noughties, the game lost much of its sparkle. It's been a grim time for shares, especially those in banks once seen as solid and reliable, such as Lloyds TSB, Royal Bank of Scotland and HBOS. In 30 months of financial mayhem, income and capital gains from shares have plunged.

Well-regarded blue chips sank too, although many bounced back in the 54 per cent surge by London's FTSE 100 index since March.

The turmoil may not yet be over. Savers nearing retirement may be reluctant to touch equities at all, in case they sink to the lows that London prices hit in early 2009.

Despite the doom and gloom, however, small investors still hold £162 billion of shares, says Capita Registrars.

And with minimal returns from rival investments such as property and savings accounts, people trying to build a lump sum to allow earlier retirement will want some money in shares – or funds that hold mostly stocks.

Caution is the watchword with most pundits. Nobody knows how share prices will respond when the Government's policy of quantitative easing is eventually switched off.

Jonathan Jackson, head of equities at broker Killik & Co, has some FTSE 100 giants in his Top Ten for 2010, including GlaxoSmithKline, BG Group, Barclays, hedge-fund manager

Man Group and FT owner Pearson. Most of these pay good dividends, around five per cent, even if capital growth may be limited.

Killik's high-yielding portfolio, with firms from the FTSE 100, Mid 250 and Small Cap, pays an average dividend of 5.7 per cent, with limited downside risk short of financial armageddon. He predicts the FTSE 100 will be at 5,850 by the end of 2010, about eight per cent up on the current level of 5,400.

Richard Hunter at discount broker Hargreaves Lansdown is slightly more hopeful. He sees the Bank of England base rate at 1.5 per cent by December, and the FTSE 100 around 6,000 in 12 months' time.

He plumps for BP (paying 5.5 per cent), Tesco, Home Retail (owner of Argos/Homebase) and one of the pharmaceutical giants, either GlaxoSmithKline or AstraZeneca.

Among tiddlers, he likes Davis Service Group, a £700 million company trading as Sunlight in the UK and Ireland to provide uniforms and workwear to a range of companies.

Globally, Hunter thinks 2010 could be the year when the economic might of China is widely recognised.

Tim Steer at the Artemis UK Growth Fund is backing firms focused on change – among them oil minnow Sterling Energy, listed on

London's junior AIM market. He also likes Ricardo, focused on improving fuel efficiency for the automotive sector.

Peter Saacke, fund manager at Artemis Global Growth, thinks 2010 will deliver higher income from shares as dividends recover. His core holdings include Cobham, Northumbrian Water and Imperial Tobacco.

In an atmosphere of huge uncertainty, there are attractions in making monthly payments into managed funds: if share prices, investors buy more shares with the same subscription.

Choosing a specialist fund is also an easy way into global markets where most investors know little about specific shares.

Emerging markets boomed in 2009, notably the BRIC chain of Brazil, Russia, India and China. Neptune's Russia & Greater Russia, launched five years ago and heavily invested in oil, mining and gas companies, was a top-performing fund in 2009, soaring by 107 per cent. Alliance RCM BRIC Stars had another great year with an 80 per cent surge.

Can they keep it up? As the developing world continues to grow, demand for raw materials grows too – which might be a case for backing JP Morgan Natural Resources, up by more than 600 per cent in the past decade.

Virgin Money's Investor Intentions Index says emerging markets pushed UK shares to second place in advice given by financial advisors during 2009, but some doubt this surge can be maintained. In any case, investors bruised by 2007-09 might choose safe funds for 2010, rather than those set to soar.

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# Twelve ways

BY JEREMY GATES

MANY families who cut back on spending in 2009 on the assumption of recovery in 2010 may already be having a rethink, and are looking for fresh ways to prune the budget after warnings another 250,000 jobs could go in the new year.

Unemployment could hit three million by mid-summer, says the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development (CIPD) – partly because of rising inflation and the rise in VAT. Counting the pennies this year could be more important than last.

"People should review their finances on a regular basis and the turn of the year is a great trigger to do just that," said Clare Francis at moneysupermarket.com.

"For those suffering an extra financial hangover from the festive period, recovery will be quicker in 2010 if significant savings are made."

Ms Francis estimates an average household could save £4,000 a year, simply by getting the cheapest deals in those areas of spending few of us can avoid, like mortgage repayments and energy bills.

Here are a dozen spending checks which any household can make.

1. Mortgages – use low interest rates to overpay your mortgage, while 'interest only' borrowers who switch to capital repayment terms with their current lender may be surprised by savings in the long-term.

Moneysupermarket.com estimates that somebody paying an extra £50 per month on a capital repayment could save £40,000 over the 300-month life of a mortgage.

Andrew Hagger at Moneynet.co.uk points out that switching lenders might not be worth it for those with small loans, because of the hefty fees incurred. Above £70,000, though, it might be worth looking at cheaper fixes, including a Leeds BS five-year fix at 4.75 per cent or Mansfield BS's two-year fix at 3.59 per cent.

Don't linger on a Standard Variable Rate (SVR) loan because rates are likely to rise this year. Someone with a £150,000, two-year mortgage at Coventry BS fixed at 3.5 per cent would save £2,278 against the average SVR rate.

2. Get the cheapest loan – Nationwide BS thinks many consumers with debts spread across credit and store cards, overdrafts and loans could save by consolidating the debts into its new personal loans costing a typical 7.6 per cent APR on £7,500-14,999 for up to five years, the rate being fixed for the full term of the loan.

This undercuts the 7.9 per cent offer on £7,500-15,000 advances, with Nectar points, unveiled by Sainsbury's Finance.

3. Credit cards – if you can get your card debts accepted for a zero per cent balance transfer deal, there's a case for cutting the card up to ensure you don't make new purchases, possibly charged at 16 per cent.

4. Be a careful shopper – write down what you need before entering the supermarket, and you can easily save £20 per week, says Andrew Hagger at Moneynet.co.uk. That's worth £1,000 a year, which you can use to pay off debts elsewhere.

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# to trim your budget

5. Home and motor insurance – comparison site Gocompare.com reckons 21 million drivers are missing out on cheaper cover. Also, only 19 per cent of consumers switched their home insurer in the last year.

Gocompare.com says its customers could save an average £211 by comparing policies from more than 120 insurers and brokers.

A new deal from Direct Line offers 52 days of free cover on car insurance, while home insurance policies offer 12 months' cover for the price of nine, with a free home-emergency policy to cover call-outs, parts and labour on some domestic crises.

6. Claim all available benefits – if family income is less than £40,000 and both partners work 16 hours a week plus, you're eligible for childcare tax credits worth hundreds of pounds, assuming the care is registered with Ofsted.

7. Current Account – A&L, part of Santander Group, re-introduces its £100 cashback for those switching to its Premier Current Account from January 11. Other perks include a fee-free agreed overdraft for 12 months, free European travel insurance and 0.5 per cent credit interest, on condition at least £500 is paid in each month.

8. Maximise savings rates – the big institutions still need your cash, with Abbey and A&L kick-starting the new year with a range of fixed-rate bonds paying up to 4.1 per cent gross/AER on minimum £1 deposits invested for one year upwards.

9. Start saving for next Christmas – Yorkshire BS is launching a 2010 Christmas saver account, branch-based and

postal, paying a fixed rate of 3.5 per cent gross on a minimum £10 deposit. The account will take a maximum £1,200.

Savers prepared to set aside £250 per month, can get five per cent from the Norwich & Peterboro' BS Family Regular Saver.

10. Energy bills – obvious ways to save, said Will Marples at uSwitch.com, include paying by direct debit, switching to dual fuel, and signing up to

an online plan which are about £300 a year cheaper than standard energy plans.

11. TV, telephone and internet – Moneysupermarket.com reckons bundling your TV, landline and broadband connections can save about £130 a year, compared with the cost of standalone products.

For a standalone line rental deal, www.Homephonechoices.co.uk's Primus Home Phone Saver package offers free evening and weekend calls to UK landlines for £9.15 line rental per month.

12. Travel – If you know when you want to go, train travel needn't cost the earth. Advance tickets are available up to 12 weeks in advance, and are claimed to be the cheapest ticket option.

While bus passes are free for pensioners, railcards can lop a third from off-peak rail fares. Sign up for alerts from www.thetrainline.com to save an average 43 per cent on the price of 'turn up and go' tickets.

Many travel firms could go bust in 2010, putting your money at risk. The British Insurance Brokers Association (BIBA) recommends policies by Tokio Marine Europe, but Direct Line and AA Travel Insurance claim to offer protection against corporate failures.

• *Unbiased.co.uk, which promotes the benefits of independent financial advice, has a new financial calendar to help consumers plan their payments and spending. It can be downloaded free at [www.unbiased.co.uk/financial-tools/financial-calendar](http://www.unbiased.co.uk/financial-tools/financial-calendar).*



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■ Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering fixed-price servicing for cars three years plus, eg silver care, £139

■ Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a free glass of wine with your Sunday lunch throughout Jan and Feb in the Verve Grill

■ KOS Media is offering six breathable, moth-resistant protective clothes covers from just £12.99 for a set of six

■ Mayfair Drives in Rainham is offering up to 50 per cent off flooring

■ KOS Media is offering a saving of £80 on the Pulsar Kinetic watch

■ Ashford Orbital Motors in Ashford is offering MOTs for £34.15

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**FAMILY MATTERS:**  
Parents must think carefully about how to provide for their children



By **JEREMY PASSMORE**

Thomson Snell & Passmore

MANY people want to provide funds for their children and grandchildren, to help with all the varied calls for money they will experience during their younger years and into adulthood.

It is not always easy to know how best to structure any such provision. One wants to ensure that children have an appropriate degree of access to the monies, and that the structure serves to minimise the impact of taxes.

1. Bare Trusts – are arrangements where trustees are acting really only as nominees, with the beneficiaries having beneficial ownership of the monies.

Where funds are provided by grandparents, grandchildren can use their personal allowances for income tax and annual exemptions for CGT, which is likely to be better than if the monies were held by the parents or

# Do you trust the children?

grandparents. If the funds are provided by parents, however, income tax is assessed on them until the children reach 18.

A disadvantage is at 18 the children can call for the money which belongs to them; because it might be spent unwisely does perhaps mean such trusts should not be over funded, to leave an 18 year old with too much to spend. While they are under 18, the monies can be used freely for their benefit, including paying school fees.

2. Discretionary Trusts – are used when the amount is more than would be appropriate for the children to take at 18; or where it is intended that the funds should be held to give benefit to the beneficiaries until a greater age such as 25; or where one wants to have the ability to favour some beneficiaries over others. Such trusts are very flexible and can target the benefit at the appropriate time.

A disadvantage is the trustees will need to

manage the funds and produce a separate tax return; with a bare trust the income is simply treated as belonging to the child and only a tax repayment claim will be needed. Furthermore, income tax rates for trustees are now high, with a 50 per cent rate from April.

The effect of this is mitigated if the income is paid out to beneficiaries who are non or lower rate tax payers. Accordingly it would normally be best to fund the trust at the sort of level where income being generated can safely be paid out, to avoid the trustees retaining income and suffering tax at 50 per cent.

Once again there is a difference if the funds are provided by a parent, with the tax assessed on the parent if the income is distributed; but if the income is accumulated, then it will be taxed at 50 per cent! So if parents want to get funds out of their estates, perhaps for IHT reasons, it would be wise not to invest to

produce a high level of income while the children are under age, although once they reach 18 the rules change and income paid out to the children is taxed on them and not their parent.

3. Provision by will – grandparents can bypass their children and set up trusts for grandchildren in their wills. The parents will probably benefit indirectly from the funds available and the trust can be drafted so the children's own personal tax position can be taken advantage of.

This will not happen if the fund is below the nil rate band threshold, currently £325,000. If someone wants to set up a larger fund, then there are ways to avoid any IHT charge by giving the children a right to income.

The circumstances and requirements of families differ greatly; one needs to think carefully about what one is trying to achieve and to structure gifts to achieve that in the most appropriate and tax effective way.

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# Open a new car savings account

BY STEVE LOADER

THERE may be a glimmer of light at the end of the recessionary tunnel, but is it too soon to think about a new car?

No. In fact, there was a strong argument for some of us to buy new wheels even in the worst depths of the downturn and those circumstances continue to prevail.

With savings accounts earning so little, you might make more by saving a huge wedge on a new car thanks to big discounts at the moment.

Fact is, there has been much hype about the Government-sponsored £2,000-a-time Scrappage grant scheme, but dealers have been knocking cash off cars for months – whether you have a 10-year-old 'scrapper' to trade in or not.

There are other deals that can be factored in too, such as zero or low rate finance.

And don't forget to ask for trimmings like a tank of fuel, car mats or further discounts on any add-ons you fancy.

Do your homework though to ensure you are not buying an unpopular engine or trim combination or, worse, a car on 'run-out' where production ceased a while ago.

After all, you don't want to trade your old gas guzzler for another just as thirsty or likely to depreciate badly.

Buy wisely though and your new vehicle could save on fuel, insurance, road tax and even depreciation, though cars always

devalue unless they achieve classic status.

You can also afford to congratulate yourself for ditching something less efficient in favour of a modern and more eco-friendly model.

On the other hand, review your proposed part-exchange; a knee-jerk disposal and the cost of replacement, could be daunting even when judged against its high running costs for the next three years and eventual disposal when the market is more settled.

## Budget

Road tax favours downsizing – gas guzzling limos or 4x4s face £950 a year road tax from April 1 next year – but this is still a small part of the motoring budget for most of us.

Many superminis currently sit in the lowest road tax band of £35 a year and though you might be tempted by new tax-exempt diesel eco models, just check the price against a standard version.

The eco supermini might save £105 road tax over three years, but how much will you pay upfront for it? A lot more and you might not think the driving experience worth paying extra for either.

Be aware too that from April 1, all cars emitting 130g/km or less will be zero-rated for tax in their first year on the road.

So, check out conventional equivalents of eco models and don't dismiss petrol power; the fuel is still cheaper and makes sense for lower mileage users, while emission and consumption levels are closing the gap on their heavier diesel equivalents.



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■ Canterbury Hyundai Motors in Canterbury is offering MOTs while you wait for £29.95

■ Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering 25 per cent off the joining fee for the leisure club

■ Cliftonville Tile Centre in Thanet is offering free adhesive and grout on all orders over 15 metres

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■ Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Motors in Tunbridge Wells is offering half price MOT with service

■ Old Sawmills furniture store in Ashford has an oak computer desk and chair promotion – various sizes, styles and leather colours, plus free banker's lamp. Only £1,295

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

CLASS: Alfa Romeo's dramatic MiTo supermini proves eco motoring need not be boring motoring



BY STEVE LOADER

DON'T swap your current car just to save a few pounds on road tax.

On the other hand, Government efforts to tax 'gas guzzlers' off the road can further ease the burden on your motoring budget if you plan to downsize or go for a more fuel-efficient model.

Chancellor Alistair Darling eased the pressure a bit after an outcry induced by draconian rates due to be applied to larger cars... just as the recession clobbered the economy.

But Labour – and a Conservative government won't be any different due to existing agreements to clean up pollution – has said it will continue to drive down vehicle sizes and emissions by using tough VED (Vehicle Excise Duty) rates, based on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions rather than fuel consumption and applying only to cars registered after March 1, 2001.

At present, you can escape paying anything if your car emits 100g/km or less and, from April 1, this benefit will apply to any car with a 130g/km or less rating, within one year of being registered. After that it will revert to £20-30 a year.

By the same token, anyone buying a serious CO<sub>2</sub> emitter discharging 255g/km or more will



TAX EXEMPT: Vauxhall has announced an improved Vauxhall Corsa, badged with its ultra-green ecoFLEX sub-branding, that is tax exempt thanks to just 98g/km emissions

# Pros and cons of road tax savings

be clobbered by a £950 charge in the first year and £435 thereafter when the new scale comes into effect – the current tax for cars in this band is £405.

Curiously, due to inconsistent emissions data on older cars, these are taxed simply at £120/year up to 1,549cc and then £185 if larger – something of a bargain for owners of older 'gas guzzlers' if they can bear higher fuel bills, opt for a £1,500-2,000 LPG (liquid petroleum gas) conversion or cover relatively few miles. The higher charge increases to £205 after April 1.

#### ROAD TAX BANDS

Band A (0-100g/km of CO <sub>2</sub> )	£0
Bands B and C (101-120g/km)	£35
Bands D and E (121-140g/km)	£120
Band F (141-150g/km)	£125
Band G (151-160g/km)	£150
Bands H and I (161-180g/km)	£175
Bands J and K (181-225g/km)	£215
Band L (226-255g/km)	£405
Band M (255g/km plus)	£405

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# Smarter driving for better saving

BY STEVE LOADER

DOWNSIZING to a more fuel and tax efficient car must be just part of your recession-busting motorising plan.

The next stage involves smarter driving and journey planning and getting fitter by walking and cycling instead of using the car for short journeys – cold engines waste fuel and produce 60 per cent more emissions than warm ones.

Short trips also mean more servicing and engine wear – a moped or motorcycle might be a better option.

If you must drive, follow these tips from the Institute of Advanced Motorists and RAC Foundation:

- Plan your route to save strain on car and driver. Take the direct route – a sat nav can help – and go off peak if possible. Commuters should think about car sharing. Park and Ride bus schemes, or other public transport.

- Have your vehicle serviced regularly. Neglected engines waste at least 10 per cent more fuel and catalytic converters only clean emissions when properly maintained.

- Check tyres – under-inflated tyres wear faster, waste fuel, are dangerous and contribute to a growing environmental problem. Check pressures weekly.

- Obey speed limits to save and stay legal. Feather the throttle at cruising speed; 56mph uses 25 per cent less fuel than 70mph and a smoother driving style saves fuel.

- Accelerate briskly without racing the engine – pulling away too fast uses up to 60 per cent more fuel. Intelligent gear changes

at modest engine speeds can save up to 15 per cent in fuel.

- Reduce drag – remove roof racks and carriers when not in use and keep windows closed to avoid drag and wasted fuel. Remove unnecessary and heavy boot luggage and wide wheels and tyres that add rolling resistance. Air conditioning costs fuel too, so try to use the fan and vents unassisted.

- Buy green fuel and use less. Look for low sulphur 'city' diesel or cleaner petrol (low sulphur/aromatics). Consider converting to LPG

(liquid petroleum gas) – half the price of petrol and with lower emissions.

- Think ahead – there is no point rushing and then having to brake suddenly.

- Be a tank miser. Why fill the tank to the brim and burn more fuel carrying more weight than necessary?

- Stuck in traffic? Turn off the engine after two minutes to save fuel and emissions.

- For more eco driving tips see Julie Maddocks' online video report at: <http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk/community>.



**ECO-FRIENDLY:** Driving more economically can also add to the savings you make from purchasing eco-friendly models like the Skoda Octavia Estate Greenline (above) or Nissan's 'Swiss army knife' Qashqai (right) – the car that can be family a hatchback, people carrier, SUV and even 4x4 if you buy a flagship model

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**Official Government Test Environmental Data.** Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Corsa 3-door SRi 1.4i 16v (100PS) manual: Urban – 40.4 (7.0), Extra-urban – 61.4 (4.6), Combined – 51.4 (5.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 129g/km. Astra Sport Hatch Sport 1.4i 16v manual: Urban – 35.3 (8.0), Extra-urban – 56.5 (5.0), Combined – 46.3 (6.1). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 146g/km.

\*Price shown includes £2000 Vauxhall Scrappage Allowance which is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Vauxhall Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to cars registered on or before 29.02.00 (vans on or before 28.02.02) when traded in against a new car subject to conditions and whilst Government funding applies. Models illustrated are Corsa 3-dr SRi 1.4i 16v (100PS) at £14,484 Man. Rec. OTR (offer price £9995\* OTR) and Astra Sport Hatch Sport 1.4i 16v at £16,339 Man. Rec. OTR (offer price £11695\* OTR). On-the-road (OTR) prices include number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty, DVLA new vehicle first registration fee of £55 and VAT at 17.5%. Excludes fuel and insurance. Offers are available to private individuals, and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 01.01.10 and 28.02.10, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Offers are available on selected Retailer stocks only. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, unless stated otherwise, and are available at participating Retailers only. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

BY STEVE LOADER

FUEL prices continue to be volatile – no help to drivers as Britain tries to claw its way out of recession.

The UK's biggest supplier of company cars reckons this also comes on top of motorists being suckered by costly motoring myths.

Lex Autolease associate director Chris Chandler said: "We own over 300,000 vehicles and some of the feedback we receive from drivers shows that a lot of bad habits have crept in, due to myths passed down from one colleague to another or through friends and family."

The firm's 'Myths Hit List' is:

'Premium fuel is good for your car every now and again'

It is only suitable for high performance cars needing superior fuel for efficient running – the higher cost is repaid by better mpg. Drivers using non-performance cars should stick to ordinary unleaded and diesel.

Another myth suggests supermarket fuel is poorer quality than that from oil companies' forecourts, but they often come from the same source, so you're paying more for the brand and any additives included.

It's best to fit your new tyres to the front axle'

Actually, they should be fitted to the rear. More grip on the rear axle improves stability on slippery roads and could prevent a spin.

Drivers are also more used to worn tyres on the front, because most modern cars are front wheel drive and wear front treads faster than the rears; switching part-worn rears to the front maintains a balance that the driver is used to.

'Allow the car to warm up before driving off'

The engine will warm up faster, use less fuel and pump out less CO<sub>2</sub> if you drive off immediately, rather than leave it to idle for a while. In winter, this also helps the car heater warm faster, though windscreens must be fully defrosted before setting off.

'Running the fuel tank near to empty helps to clean it'

# Motoring myths shattered – more savings pocketed



**ON A ROLL:** If you are buying two new tyres, they should be fitted to the back wheels say experts, as most modern cars are front-wheel drive, like the latest Vauxhall Astra and Mazda3 pictured here – new additions to the family hatchback sector.

Fuel tanks do not 'self-clean'. It is more likely that you will misjudge your next fill-up and risk seizing up your engine or other components; driving with little or no fuel can be almost as damaging to a vehicle as putting in the wrong fuel. Fill up as quickly as possible when your warning light appears.

'Filling up slows down your car'

Partially true. A heavy fuel load impacts upon fuel efficiency and braking distances, but accel-

eration and top speed is barely compromised by a full tank.

'No claims protection insurance protects my premium if I have a crash'

Standard insurances only protect the discount you would have received at the end of a claim-free year. If you have a claim, insurance companies can increase your overall premium, despite having a no claims protection policy, because you are an increased insurance risk.

Admittedly, the company has a vested interest in the final point:

'Leasing is more expensive than buying'

Many businesses and motorists fail to properly calculate the true cost of ownership. List price alone is a red herring, and ignores true running costs: finance, depreciation, maintenance and insurance.

All such costs can be better captured and budgeted through a lease deal.

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# Last call for Scrappage?

BY STEVE LOADER

AFTER a stuttering start the Government's £2,000 Scrappage incentive accelerated into a big success last year.

So much so that the initial £300 million fund needed a 50 per cent top-up last autumn to avoid running out before the proposed end of the scheme in March this year.

But money is dwindling again, and it is difficult to read how the Government will react to another top-up or an extension.

It could be simply delaying a decision so that it can maximise the political mileage ahead of the spring general election, but it is also questionable whether the scheme does much for UK PLC or its balance of payments – foreign-based carmakers and their workforces have been the main beneficiaries.

So get your order in now before the cash



HIT: Scrappage made the frugal Hyundai i10 hatchback one of the UK's top sellers



**NEW LOOK:** Scrappage has tempted many people out of old cars and into sharp-suited affordable new ones like the Chevrolet Cruze

runs out if you fancy swapping your banger.

The donor car must have been registered before August 31, 1999 and your name must have been on the V5 'logbook' for 12 months before the date your new car order is placed.

Carmakers like the scheme, though quietly annoyed that they would be expected to contribute half of each £2,000 Government Scrappage grant and that the Treasury would claw back some of its money through VAT on each car sale.

But they have seen that they can use Scrappage to buy market share and keep car plants running through the recession, and some brands have been chipping in extra cash on top of their £1,000 per unit as well as more specification and zero per cent finance – though this is no big deal when interest rates are so low.

This also indicates how keen dealers are to

do business, so don't be despondent if you're not in a position to take advantage of Scrappage; with the exception of city cars and superminis, you should get a hefty discount on most new cars without a banger to scrap.

If you have been out of the car market for a while though, do your research. You will have heard that diesel cars now outsell petrol, but that is not the full picture.

They cost more, and the extra weight can be wearing and intrusive in the smaller cars most in demand now, and you need to cover many miles to recover the extra outlay.

Meanwhile, petrol is making a comeback with lighter, small capacity turbocharged engines able to deliver diesel pulling power and lower emissions.

You might also consider a hybrid, but these cost more and this must also be weighed against the mileage you intend to cover.

Essential guide to where you can save

■ Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering fixed price servicing for cars three-years plus, for example bronze care, £109

■ Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a free glass of wine or a pint with any main course in the Victory Pub

■ KOS Media is offering a saving of up to £40 on Slumberdown Memory Foam Mattress Toppers

■ FG Barnes Motors in Maidstone is offering £250 worth of accessories with Network Q purchases

■ KOS Media is offering the Ewbank Evolution II for £24.99, save £5 on RRP

■ Ashford Orbital Motors in Ashford is offering a winter check for £19.95 inc VAT, with free de-icer, ice scraper and screen wash

■ KOS Media is offering a saving of £30 on the leader MD Electronic Typewriter – only £169.99

■ Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Motors in Tunbridge Wells is offering an MOT for only £35

■ Sink Ports kitchens and bathrooms store in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off kitchens

■ Maidstone Kia Motors in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off all accessories

■ KOS Media is offering a saving of up to £214 on a Denby Mist Dinner Set from only £99.99

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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (L/100Km) FOR THE PICANTO RANGE ARE: URBAN: 38.7 (7.3) - 49.6 (5.7). EXTRA URBAN: 57.6 (4.9) - 67.3 (4.2). COMBINED: 48.7 (5.8) - 58.8 (4.8). OFFICIAL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS ARE: 137 - 114 g/km. Warranty is 7 year/100,000 miles coverage plus 7 year/100,000 miles anti-perforation warranty (annual bodywork inspection required, for which a charge may apply). Terms and conditions apply. Price correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Model shown is Kia 1.0 Picanto 1 or £4,635 On The Road (OTR) after deducting £2,000 Government and Kia Scrappage Incentive. Government Scrappage Incentive applies to cars or vans registered on or before 29 February 2010 only when traded in against new cars. Scrapped vehicles must have been registered to the purchaser for at least the 12 months preceding the purchase of the vehicle and be MOT'd and taxed. Terms and conditions apply. OTR price includes VAT at 17.5%, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic/mica paint is available for an extra £303 charge. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 January 2010 and 31 March 2010.

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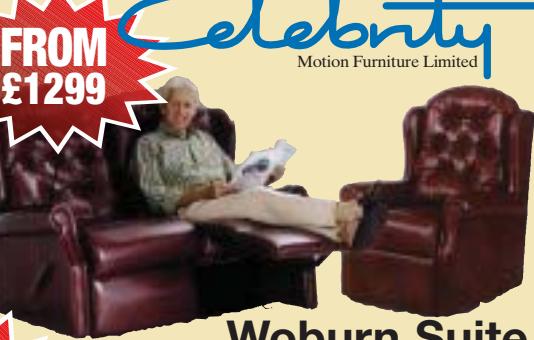
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## YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY HAYLEY ANDREWS



GLEE  
E4, 9pm, Monday

GLEE is an American-born musical television series that has US audiences captivated, gripped and addicted.

Now it has come to our screens courtesy of E4 and it seems it's our turn to be wowed.

A 'glee club' is a show choir that performs jazzed-up pop songs and show tunes, often accompanied by choreography.

Glee is set at the fictional William McKinley High School in Lima, Ohio, where Spanish teacher Will Schuester (Matthew Morrison) takes the failing club, which is attended only by a handful of misfits and geeks.

Funny, abrasive and absolutely adorable, each episode is interspersed with relevant musical numbers.

The plots resemble those of soap operas, but Glee stands out from other shows of its genre because of its quirky sense of humour, which makes light of topics that other dramas might get in a flap about.

The characters are wonderfully awkward, likable and in turn ridiculous. Many are pretty clueless and even the bad-guy characters have some spark and life that makes you want to watch.

Jane Lynch plays the school's drill sergeant-style cheerleading coach Sue Sylvester, with quips like "I will go to the animal shelter and get you a kitty cat. I will let you fall in love with that kitty cat and then on some dark, cold night I will steal away into your home and punch you in the face" and "I will vomit down your back".

You can't help but laugh at her delightful nastiness.

Taking the show seriously is a mistake. Glee is not another High School Musical and is far from the



**SCHOOL'S OUT:** E4 has taken Globe Golden-nominated Glee and brought it to UK screens

disaster that was ITV's Britannia High; rather it is a parody of such shows.

When gloomy EastEnders and tired Corrie are bringing you down, this serves as a tonic. It's deliberately cheesy, purposely cringeworthy and mocks high-school politics.

The show is a celebration of individuality and of the misfit, which in the age of perfect-people Gossip Girl is revitalising and delightful.

The fact the series was nominated for four 2010 Golden Globe Awards tells you more than I can.

Anything uplifting in today's grey society is more than welcome, if you ask me.

Fans of Glee are referred to as 'gleeks' and, as a self-confessed gleek, I would advise you to test the water.

Just don't overanalyse – take it for what it is and enjoy.

# BIG IMPACT small price

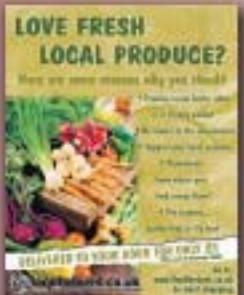
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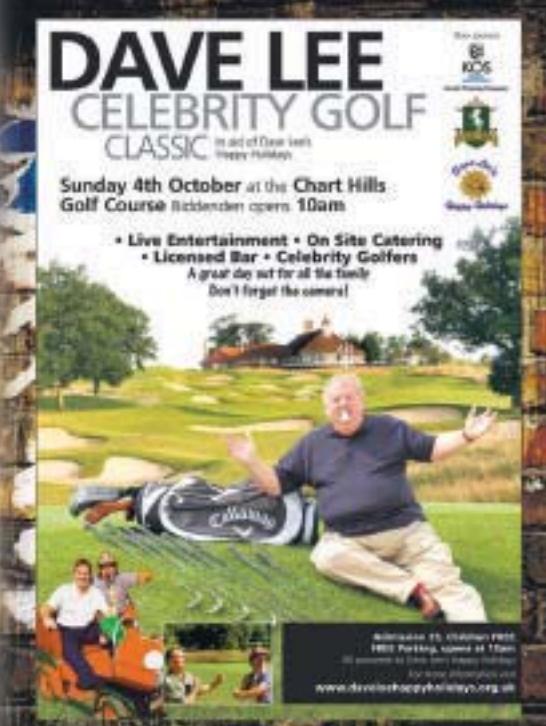


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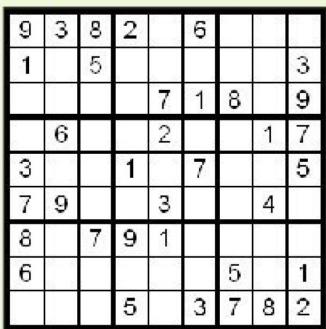
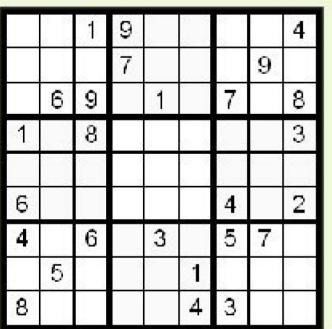
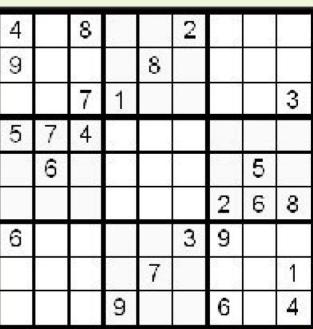
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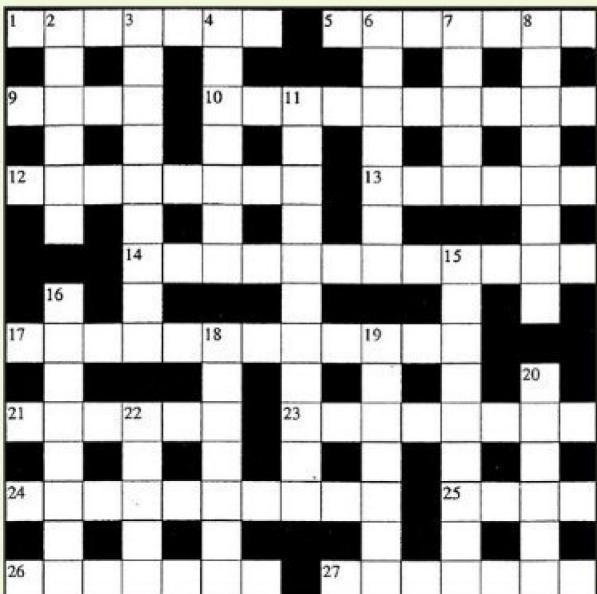
Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

**EASY****MEDIUM****HARD****CRYPTIC CLUES****ACROSS**

- 1 Fruity squelching? (7)
- 5 Why is he moving about? Because it is watery (7)
- 9 In Odessa kirsch, alcoholic drink (4)
- 10 Nothing more than a religious rite in California (10)
- 12 Serviceman's order, duck (8)
- 13 Something that finishes everything found in Kendal latterly (3,3)
- 14 Informs Grant about changing from one medium into another (12)
- 17 Provider of power in a flash? (5,7)
- 21 Coming round with reference to some pithy sayings (6)
- 23 On which one must pay one's way (4,4)
- 24 Leader's joint office (10)
- 25 Extremely liberally included range of letters whilst averse to labour (4)
- 26 Record that is about Thomas' short summary (7)
- 27 State of the Empire? (3,4)

**DOWN**

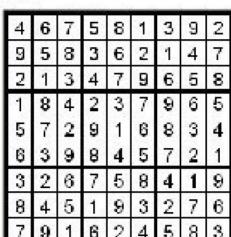
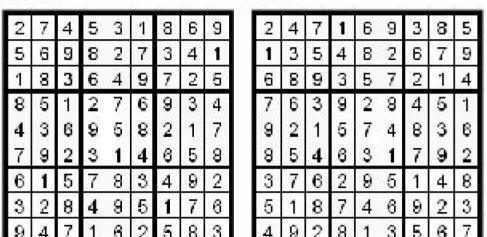
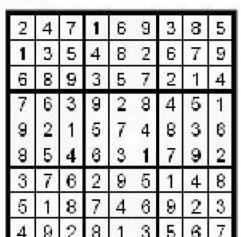
- 2 In the capacity of bacon producer taking round claim (6)
- 3 I am a toxic monstrosity - that's self-evident (9)
- 4 No ahs with an unusual shout of praise (7)
- 6 He will welcome call to attract attention or call to exertion at sea (5,2)
- 7 Surrender profit (5)
- 8 Paying for various lettings (8)
- 11 Angry way with restless desire to do some needlework (5-6)
- 15 Graduate confused royalty in chief magistrate's office (9)
- 16 Enlisted, increased writing (6-2)
- 18 Doubly beastly fabric? (7)
- 19 Orbital path (7)
- 20 German tank Peter puts nothing on dropping round (6)
- 22 Test the heartless invader with choral composition (5)

**SCRIBBLE HERE****QUICK CLUES****ACROSS**

- 1 Marked increase (7)
- 5 Loan (7)
- 9 Tot (4)
- 10 Valuing highly (10)
- 12 Discovered (5,3)
- 13 Attractiveness (6)
- 14 With great vigour (4,8)
- 17 Item of camouflage clothing (6,6)
- 21 Horselaugh (6)
- 23 Woody part that holds a nut (5-3)
- 24 In one continuous period (2,1,7)
- 25 Destroy completely (4)
- 26 Late day (anag.) (3,4)
- 27 Boasted (7)

**DOWN**

- 2 Amnesty (6)
- 3 Active feminist movement (6,3)
- 4 Mesh (7)
- 6 Refuse orders (7)
- 7 Entrance halls (5)
- 8 Unremitting (8)
- 11 Recklessly wasteful (11)
- 15 Leaving without reporting motoring accident (3-3)
- 16 Flirt (8)
- 18 Stood on high (7)
- 19 Technical expertise (7)
- 20 Gag (6)
- 22 Flintlock musket (5)

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS****SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No120****EASY****MEDIUM****HARD**

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**ACROSS:** 1 Flight-deck 7 Body 9 Ebbs Vale 10 Squal 11 Experiment 14 Redolent 15 Lyrist 16 Violet 18 Bullet 20 Correspond 23 Sigma 24 Addition 25 Brer 26 Everywhere. **DOWN:** 2 Lobe 3 Gown 4 Trapeze 5 Eyespot 6 Kestrel 7 Blue murder 8 Diagnostic 12 Helicopter 13 Jolly Roger 17 To scale 18 Brocade 19 Lady Day 21 Itch 22 Four.

**QUICK SOLUTION No121**

**ACROSS:** 1 Swimming 5 Advance 9 Drama 10 Treasuring 22 Found out 13 Ready 14 Laundry 15 Hit-and-run 16 Dognose 18 Womadred 19 Extraord 20 *Womadred* 21 Extraord 22 *Womadred* 23 *Womadred* 24 *Womadred* 25 *Womadred* 26 Tea *Womadred* 27 *Womadred* 28 *Womadred* 29 *Womadred* 30 *Womadred* 31 *Womadred* 32 *Womadred* 33 *Womadred* 34 *Womadred* 35 *Womadred* 36 *Womadred* 37 *Womadred* 38 *Womadred* 39 *Womadred* 40 *Womadred* 41 *Womadred* 42 *Womadred* 43 *Womadred* 44 *Womadred* 45 *Womadred* 46 *Womadred* 47 *Womadred* 48 *Womadred* 49 *Womadred* 50 *Womadred* 51 *Womadred* 52 *Womadred* 53 *Womadred* 54 *Womadred* 55 *Womadred* 56 *Womadred* 57 *Womadred* 58 *Womadred* 59 *Womadred* 60 *Womadred* 61 *Womadred* 62 *Womadred* 63 *Womadred* 64 *Womadred* 65 *Womadred* 66 *Womadred* 67 *Womadred* 68 *Womadred* 69 *Womadred* 70 *Womadred* 71 *Womadred* 72 *Womadred* 73 *Womadred* 74 *Womadred* 75 *Womadred* 76 *Womadred* 77 *Womadred* 78 *Womadred* 79 *Womadred* 80 *Womadred* 81 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## Soak up the poetry of Grasmere

■ BY PAT HURST

GRASMERE'S most famous resident once described the Lake District village as "the loveliest spot that man hath ever found" – and two centuries later the sentiment still holds true.

Of course, beauty is all around in this scenic part of Cumbria, but the great Romantic poet William Wordsworth did not overestimate its attraction one jot.

Sturdy boots, a bottle of water and some sun is all you need for a bracing walk up Helm Crag, the peak overshadowing the village.

Known as 'The Lion and the Lamb' or 'The Old Lady at the Piano', depending on which side you view it from, it is the first sight of Grasmere from the main road into the village.

Helm Crag is ideal for the beginner. The route is well-marked from the centre of the village, and, while the climb can be steep in parts, you needn't be a mountain goat to complete the walk leisurely in half a day.

Novices can expect to be overtaken by more serious Wainwright aficionados, decked out in waterproofs and equipped with poles – and all apparent retirees, who, to my shame, quickly disappeared over the horizon as our heavy legs called out for a rest and a cigarette break.

But for a little effort and some scrambling, the views over Grasmere towards Loughrigg fell provide the kind of panorama that inspired Wordsworth to write his poetry.

Some people might say that a real outdoor adventure should include a Primus stove, a sleeping bag and a tent.

But, rain-sodden, legs like jelly and footsore, I was more than happy to be watered and fed



**BREATHTAKING:** The scenic views at Grasmere inspired former resident Wordsworth to pen his romantic verse

at surely one of the Lake District's best hotels, the Rothay Garden in Grasmere, run by Chris Carss and his team.

The ground-floor bedrooms feature French doors with a small patio area leading out to the stunning gardens.

Master chef Andrew Burton has been at the hotel for 17 years, and his food was simply outstanding and beautifully presented, enhanced by the elegant candlelit setting.

With a menu changing daily, featuring dishes such as ballontine of quail, pan-fried pigeon supreme and Cartmel salt-marsh lamb, venturing outside the hotel to eat seemed a real shame.

Grasmere is, of course, synonymous with Wordsworth, who was most prolific during the many years he lived in the village.

Famously, in his best-loved poem, 1804's The Daffodils, he tells how he "wandered lonely as a cloud".

There is little chance of wandering too lonely in Grasmere these days – Wordsworth himself being one of the reasons.

Along with Rydal Mount, Dove Cottage – a Grade I-listed building – was one of his two homes there.

A fascinating guided tour is available, and England's literary history seeps from the cottage's white-washed walls.

His furniture, portraits and family chattels are all on display for you to see where the master poet sat down to write his immortal words.

Wordsworth lies with his family in graves in one of the village's greatest attractions, St Oswald's Church – a simple but pleasant stone edifice dating back to the 13th Century.

The lovely churchyard, with the River Rothay running beside, is a little oasis of quiet away from the busy narrow streets of the village, and well worth a visit if only to see Wordsworth's final resting place.

### FACT FILE: GRASMERE

Time difference	None
Language	English
Population	42,000
Currency	Sterling
Religion	Christian

### Travel facts

Pat Hurst was a guest of Rothay Garden Hotel, Grasmere, where standard rooms range from £90 to £110 per person per night (half-board), with loft suites from £155.

All bedrooms offer en-suite facilities, flatscreen satellite TV, free broadband and slippers.

Rothay Garden Hotel reservations: 01539 435334 and [www.rothaygarden.com](http://www.rothaygarden.com).

Cumbria Tourism: 01539 822222 and [www.golakes.co.uk](http://www.golakes.co.uk).



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## WOMEN seeking men

**MAKE IT LAST** Slim female, 25, 5'10", long brown hair and blue eyes, caring and social, likes clubs, cinema, seeking a kind male, 30-45 for a relationship. Box 461558

**MATCH OF THE DAY!** Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5'2", a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded male, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

**NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL...** BUT... Blowny blonde, 27, 5'11", loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, my time! Looking for a honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

**LOOKIN' A GUY WHO'S EASY ON THE EYE!** 25yr old female, 5'8", medium-curvy build, NS, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, WLTM tall, attractive male, 23-32 for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644

**FANCY A Cuddle?** Loving single mom, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5'5", slim and sexy, part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 448326

**SOUND GOOD?** Social lady, 29, likes walks, swimming, gyms, like to meet a man, 30-55 for lots of fun. Brighton. Box 463984

**IS ANYONE OUT THERE?** 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTM cuddly falls to enjoy the finer things in life, with a desire to LTR with the right person. Box 879931

**A FAIRYTALE ENDING!** Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek, 5'8", short brown blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957

**HORSES FOR COURSES...** Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

**HAPPY DAYS!** Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair, with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

**FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME...** Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5'3", shoulder length curly hair, enjoys eating out, cinema and I'm looking for a friend and possible long term relationship. Box 453039

**SEALED WITH A KISS** Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, walking and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079

**STARRY NIGHTS** Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair, enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378

**GROWN OLD WITH ME** Single mum, 37 yrs old, slim build, honest, kind and caring. I'm looking for LTR, love and romance with nice guy in Maidstone area. Box 880164

**LOVE TO LOVE YOU** Lovely female, 36, 5'4", medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

**HISTORIC MEETING?** Mum of three, 36, long mousy hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker for LTR. Box 440693

**SEIZE THE DAY** Loving female, 36, 5'4", brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

**CUTE AS CAN BE** Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983



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**SHOW ME HEAVEN** Black lady, 39, end, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching. Fairly new to the area, WLTM a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608

**A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE** Lovely, glossy blonde, 39 yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out. WLTM a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

**TAKE A LITTLE TIME** Young female, 41, 5'3", gsoh, likes family life, going out, cinema, walks, staying in, seeking a fun male for company. Sheerness. Box 441614

**CANT SMILE WITHOUT YOU** Professional female, 41, 5'5", brown hair/eyes, likes country pubs and walks, looking for a gent, 42-55, to share a happy future. Gillingham Box 462538

**FOR A RELATIONSHIP?** Shy but confident-once known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106

**TLC ON OFFER** Bubbly, happy, outgoing 41yr old female, enjoy life to the full, like writing, walking, watching DVDs, WLTM like-minded, happy-go-lucky, clean male for friendship and more. Box 459271

**LOVE IS ALL AROUND** Happy-go-lucky, blonde 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love cuttings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley Box 454517

**CUTE AS CAN BE** Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983

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## YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT

Fun-loving lady, 42, 5ft, brown hair, green eyes, enjoys being outdoors, horse riding, pubnights, WLTM yes! Box 665096

**HELLO EVERYONE!** Single dog-owner, 42, fun-loving, kind and loyal, likes meals out, weekends away, country walks, WLTM a non-smoking guy to share it all with. Seaforth Box 446699

**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL** Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc, looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsoh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

**ANOTHER CHAPTER** Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green/blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037

**DOS THIS SOUND LIKE YOU?** Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5ft9, dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and caring male, 38-42. Box 461299

**EAT TRUE** Attractive, curvy, single mum, 39, 5ft4, animal lover, happy go lucky, likes quiet drinks and cinema, looking for a man for friendship, maybe a LTR. Box 460698

**SWET HONEY** Petite, slim, honey-blonde lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing, looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 454865

**HOW YOU DOING?** Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, 5'5", loyal, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 461330

**THE RIGHT FIT** Big lady (51), looking for decent, genuine man. I'm attractive, and very loving so go on, give me a try! I like cooking and family life. Box 862688

**LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE** Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

**JUST IMAGINE** Petite, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, music, dancing and walking, to start afresh with someone new, easygoing and life-loving. Box 445102

**ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL** Young-looking 48yr old female, 5ft4, slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, lovely, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5ft7, to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461938

**HERE AND NOW** Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, sees man to love forever. Box 449524

**LOVELY BUBBLY** Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-55 with gsoh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311

**A REAL DIAMOND** African lady, 47, honest, loving and caring, enjoys most things in life, looking for a male, 50+, for a LTR. Canterbury. Box 460999

**IT COULD BE US** Happy-go-lucky lady, 53, 5ft3, slim, blonde hair/eyes, likes looking for a tall, honest guy, for love and laughter and happy times. South Kent. Box 460951

**WOULD LIKE TO BE HAPPY** Looking for someone who enjoys the simple things in life, wind and rain my face, 53, red hair, warm smile, loves nature, WLTM tallish man to hopefully brighten each other's lives. Box 870214

**BRIGHTENING UP** Cuddly lady, 61, 5ft6, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. WLTM tallish man to hopefully brighten each other's lives. Box 441622

**SHAKE IT UP** Short 51yr old female, 5ft2, likes swimming, dancing, playing cards, looking for slim male, for friendship, possibly more. Box 449110

**DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?** Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Maidstone. Box 462717

**PUT SPARK INTO LIFE** Caring slim female, 64, 5ft2, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion. Box 450581

**LET'S FALL IN LOVE** Lovely female, 65, 5ft2, enjoys walking, bird-watching, cinema, theatre and red wine, seeking a male companion to share life with. Box 444763

**WOMEN seeking women**

**TRUE ROMANCE** Fun loving lady, honest, sincere and trust-worthy, 41 yrs old and looking for fun, maybe romance with an honest, sincere woman, likes nights in/out etc. Whitstable. Box 456844

**SO HAPPY TOGETHER** Single male, honest and caring, 56" non-smoker, 41, likes football, tennis, walks, music, the simple things in life would like to share them with you. Box 462848

**LET'S FIND OUT!** Hi, I'm a fun-loving, kind, passionate lady, 44, 5ft5, with a wicked sense of humour, looking for friendship and what ever evolves from there. Kent. Box 877446

**STARTING ANEW** Professional 42 year old, recently separated after a 23 year marriage. Likes the finer things in life, looking for someone who wants a relationship. Kent. Box 463958

**Text KOS to 81188**

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## LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart polite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad, seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448793

**MAKE A NEW FRIEND** Fun-loving lady, 58, 5ft4, dark hair, single mum! Likes countryside walks, reading, cooking and cosy nights in, seeks similar male. Folkestone. Box 460420

**NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED** Young-looking 60yr old lady from Gillingham, looking for a male for company and good times. I love animals and dining out. Box 4503495

**MAKING A DATE** Canterbury chap, 58, 5ft2, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks a mate for friendship and more. Box 455224

**SHARE THE GOOD LIFE** Professional male, 32, 6ft, good build, likes the coast, countryside and good food and wine, seeks fun female, 30-45, for friendship and more. Box 459280

**IT'S A SHORE THING** Genuine male, 58, 5ft1, GSOH, slim/medium build like animals, cooking, beach/country walks, driving, WLTM living, caring woman lady. Box 458597

**FEELS LIKE HOME** Self employed male, 54, tall, divorced, sees female for friendship. Box 180307

**LOVE ME, LOVE MY TROLLEY** Tall, dark, divorced male, 59, likes most muscidiung/actinema and possibly more. Box 449480

**TRY ANYTHING ONCE** Tall chap, 44, medium build. Interests: walking, running, swimming, I would love to meet a nice, honest and caring lady. Box 444251

**SINCERE** male, 55, sees genuine, loving female for friendship and possibly more. Box 710294

**ON THE SHORELINE** Retired professional, 63, happy, confident, GSOH, enjoys gardening, cooking, golf and sunshiny walks, looking for a friend, hopefully more. Box 426202

**LOOKING FOR MY LADY** Active young male, 47, professional, 5ft6, likes the theatre, the countryside and photography, loves travelling, hoping to meet a mature warm headed lady for life-long romance. Margate. Box 461214

**GAINING CONFIDENCE** 47yr old chap, Brighton based, have my own company and I enjoy most things in life, seeks a fresh start with a genuine local lady. Box 463263

**ENDLESS LOVE** Athletic male, 35, 5ft9, professional, looking for a fun, lively and outgoing female to enjoy life with, gsoh is a must! Box 863555

**BOTTLE OF WINE** Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft5, medium build, brown hair. I'm based in Kent, loves glasses, likes music and great seeking a slim lady. Box 456817

**JUST ASK** Fun-loving male, 36, seeking a male for friend ship to share good times with, and maybe develop beyond. Maidstone. Box 863683

**SEEKING MY MATCH** Single dad, 39, 6ft dark hair, nice looking, honest, separated, looking for a loving, honest, fun-loving lady. Eastbourne. Box 458698

**FULLY HOUSE TRAINED!** Happy-go-lucky divorcee single dad, 40, slim/medium build, 6ft, dark hair, love motorcycles, family time, cooking, WLTM female, prefer single mum, to enjoy life with. Polegate. Box 864728

**BEING WITH YOU** I'm an honest, easygoing, young-looking, fit male, 40s, 5ft6, love live music, eating out, theatre, cinema and pubs, seeking a nice young lady over 30 for romance and good times together. Box 860005

**LOVE AND LAUGHTER.** Male, 55, 6ft, good sense of humour looking for a soul mate and best friend as well as a lover. Must be single and honest. Box 863979

**MAKE THE MOST OF LIFE** Genuine male, 35, 5ft1, fair hair, blue eyes, toned body, looking to meet an attractive guy for fun times. Rochester. Box 461617

**FIT LADY WANTED** Canterbury area, I'm male, 54, 5ft9, fit and active, attractive. I'm outgoing with a GSOH and enjoy meals out, nights in, animals, female company! Box 464416

**PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING** Understanding, caring, single, 54, male, 5ft10, medium build, grey hair, enjoys beach walks, cinema/theatre, bowling, darts, looking for lasting relationship. Canterbury. Box 462892

**MAKE YOUR MARK** Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTM someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448373

**TO ENJOY LIFE** Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTM someone trustworthy and caring to settle down with. Box 448377

**SO HAPPY TOGETHER** Single male, honest and caring, 56" non-smoker, 41, likes football, tennis, walks, music, the simple things in life would like to share them with you. Box 462848

**HOW ABOUT TODAY?** Looking for love and relationship with nice, genuine woman. I'm male, 42, 5ft8, brown hair/blue eyes, enjoys cycling, films, eating in and out, Kent. Box 463958

**STARTING ANEW** Professional 42 year old, recently separated after a 23 year marriage. Likes the finer things in life, looking for someone who wants a relationship. Kent. Box 463958

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## PROPERTY NEWS

### House prices up for sixth time, says bank

IN its latest survey of the UK housing market, Halifax reports that in December, house prices increased for the sixth consecutive month.

The rise took the value of a typical home to £169,042, up 9.4 per cent – or £14,552 – on the low of April 2009, and 1.1 per cent higher on an annual basis.

Taking the three-month-on-three-month measure, prices rose for the second successive quarter; in the final three months of 2009, the average value of a home increased 3.5 per cent, marking the biggest quarterly jump since 2006.

The lender comments that significant interest rate cuts have “markedly reduced the burden of servicing a mortgage” and helped to stimulate demand, albeit from a low base.

However, Halifax expects house prices to remain flat in 2010 as prospects for depend on how the UK economy performs, and whether there is a significant increase in the supply of properties.

By way of comparison, Nationwide recently reported that the average house price rose by 0.4 per cent in December, compared to a month earlier, to £162,103. According to the building society, the increase took the annual rate of gain to 5.9 per cent.

### No repayment fee for buy-to-let borrowers

LANDLORDS with cash to spare will be interested in Bradford & Bingley's offer to waive early repayment charges,

From February 1 buy-to-let borrowers can pay off a capital lump sum, or redeem their mortgages early, at no extra cost.

A similar waiver proved popular last year and its reintroduction forms part of a strategy to wind down the mortgage books of both lenders, as they will eventually be liquidated.

For landlords tempted to remortgage, lettings agent Leaders has this week reported “a small but significant increase in buy-to-let mortgage products”.

However, proposals for the Financial Services Authority to begin regulating the sector this year could stifle recovery in what has become a severely contracted market.

According to Paragon Mortgages, the number of buy-to-let products available has collapsed to about 190, with 94 per cent of loans disappearing since the onset of the credit crisis.



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# Best-buy mortgage table shows rise in competition

■ BY NICK AMES

THE Alliance & Leicester, which has branches across the county, has been named the most consistently competitive mortgage lender during the final quarter of 2009, according to research by mortgage search software firm, Evaluate Technologies.

A&L replaced HSBC as the UK's most consistently competitive mortgage lender during the quarter, despite having failed to register any of its home loans in best buy tables during the previous quarter.

#### Analysis

In the analysis, A&L achieved a score of 23 and beat off rivals including First Direct on 19 points, Woolwich on 15 and fourth with 14 points was HSBC.

However, Royal Bank of Scotland and subsidiary NatWest failed to put in a “best buy” appearance, as did Halifax and Cheltenham & Gloucester, said Evaluate.

Julie Speed, national accounts director at Evaluate Technologies said: “The changes taking place at the top of the best-buy tables indicate a good degree of competition in the mortgage market.

“This is going to be key to supporting the property market in 2010.”

“Brokers will have been particularly pleased to see Alliance & Leicester's emergence, showing that lenders do value the intermediary market.”



COMPETITION: Alliance and Leicester sealed the deal for the most consistently competitive mortgage lender

Meanwhile A&L, along with Abbey and Bradford & Bingley, is set to be re-named Santander later this year.

Santander, which is the second largest banking group in the world after HSBC, became a

household name in the UK when it acquired Abbey for £9.5 billion, back in 2004.

In July 2008, it acquired A&L and a few months later, it took ownership of B&B's savings business and branch network.

# Unemployment to hit house prices



HOUSING analysts Hometrack expects the housing market in England to feel the effects of rising unemployment in the months ahead.

The housing intelligence firm is predicting a one per cent fall in the average cost of a home in 2010, despite a rise of 0.1 per cent in December, which followed on from a 0.2 per cent increase in November.

However, December also saw the number of potential buyers entering the market fall by 2.2 per cent, the first decline since January 2009.

This month's increase eased the annual rate of decline to 1.9 per cent.

However, Hometrack's director of research, Richard Donnell, is convinced that rising unemployment and slow growth in household

incomes will take their toll next year. He concedes that a shortage of homes for sale will help to underpin prices, but expects demand to be the deciding factor in whether they rise or fall.

Meanwhile, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is taking a more optimistic view and predicting a one per cent to two per cent rise in UK house prices in 2010, despite a “flat” employment market and continued caution among lenders.

According to the RICS, supply should continue to increase in the early part of next year but will struggle to keep pace with demand.

The body also estimates that transactions will rise from between 55,000 and 60,000 per month in 2009, to 70,000 by the end of 2010.

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# Thanet's newest and fastest growing Estate Agent



**Westbrook £72,500**

Converted Flat, First Floor, Two Bedrooms, Stunning Sea Views, Close To Mainline Railway Station, No Onwards Chain



**St Peters £119,999**

First Floor Purpose Built Apartment, Two Bedrooms, Gardens To Front And Rear, St Peters Location



**Ramsgate £133,500**

Terraced House, Two Bedrooms, Close To Main Amenities, Viewing Highly Recommended, Garden To Rear, Within School Catchments



**Broadstairs £135,000**

Newly Refurbished Flat, Second Floor, One Bedroom, Sea Views, Central Broadstairs Location, Close To All Amenities, No Onwards Chain



**Broadstairs £145,000**

First Floor Apartment, One Bedroom, Broadstairs Seafront Location, Imposing Entrance Hall, Excellent Order Throughout, No Onwards Chain



**Margate £149,995**

Semi Detached House, Three Bedrooms, Excellent Order Throughout, Extended, Conservatory, Off Street Parking, Popular Location



**Ramsgate £162,500**

Semi Detached House, Three Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, 20ft x 19ft Garage, Gardens To Front & Rear, Convenient Location



**Ramsgate £165,000**

Detached Bungalow, Three Bedrooms, No Onwards Chain, Popular Location, Gardens To Front & Rear, Garage Plus Driveway



**Margate £174,995**

Double Storey Extended Home, Semi Detached, Three Bedrooms, Garage Plus Driveway, Convenient Location, Must Be Viewed

**Sell with us for  
1.25%  
NO VAT**



**Margate £177,500**

End Of Terrace House, Four Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Convenient Location, Garden To Rear, Viewing Essential



**Ramsgate £195,000**

Detached Bungalow, Two Bedrooms, Immaculate Order, Garage Plus Driveway, Fitted Kitchen, Quiet Residential Cul-De-Sac



**Margate £199,995**

Semi Detached House, Three Double Bedrooms, Bathroom + Shower Room, Large Conservatory, Off Street Parking, No Onwards Chain



**Broadstairs -£245,000**

Modern Detached Home, Four Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Garage Plus Driveway, Within School Catchments, Viewing Crucial



**Ramsgate £249,995**

Terraced Period House, Five bedrooms, Three Reception Rooms, Original Character Features, Distant/Partial Sea Views, Viewing Highly



**Ramsgate £275,000**

Detached Bungalow, Four Bedrooms, Secluded Gardens, Tandem Garage, Bathroom + Shower Room, Desirable Location



**Palm Bay £299,995**

Detached Bungalow, Five Bedrooms, Two En-Suite Bathrooms, Approx 90ft Depth Rear Garden, Off Street Parking, 200 Yards From Seafront, Viewing Essential



**Ramsgate £299,995**

Detached House, Three Bedrooms, Excellent Order Throughout, 200 Yards From Clifftop Walks, Off Street Parking, Desirable Location



**Broadstairs £319,995**

Detached Bungalow, Five Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms, Highly Sought After Location, Garage Plus Driveway, Sea View From Rear Garden

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in Broadstairs"*

Source: [www.home.co.uk](http://www.home.co.uk), December 2009

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BROADSTAIRS £249,950

- 2/3 BED, GFCH & SUDG WDWS
- 22' Conservatory.
- 15' Lounge. Viewings a must.



BROADSTAIRS £325,000

- 3/4 Bed Detached
- Superb Gardens
- Must Be Seen!



MARGATE £249,995

- Stunning family home
- Close to most local amenities
- Superb size accommodation



MARGATE £139,995

- Spacious Three Bedrooms
- Good Order Throughout
- 62ft Rear Gardens



BROADSTAIRS £329,995

- 4 Bed Detached, En-Suite
- Large Family Conservatory
- Prime Broadstairs Location



BROADSTAIRS £270,000

- Detached luxury
- 3 beds, 17' lounge
- Immaculate throughout.



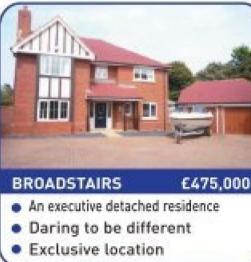
BROADSTAIRS £95,000

- Sea Views
- 2nd Floor
- 1 bed.



BROADSTAIRS £199,950

- Sought after location
- 3 bedrooms
- Garage in block.



BROADSTAIRS £475,000

- An executive detached residence
- Daring to be different
- Exclusive location

our sales are up

98%

SOLD

S.T.C.  
Source: All sales figures from Miles & Barr Thanet comparing Apr-June '08 to Apr-June '09

BROADSTAIRS £239,995

- 3/4 Bedrooms, 2/3 Receptions
- Period Features, Cellar Rooms
- Off Street Parking to the rear



BROADSTAIRS £144,995

- Top Floor Apartment
- Spacious, 19' Lounge
- Allocated Parking Space



CLIFTONVILLE £244,995

- Impressive 4 Bed Detached
- Extremely Well-Presented
- Cul-De-Sac Location



BROADSTAIRS £229,995

- Contemporary Living, No Chain
- 3 bedrooms, Master En Suite
- Allocated Parking, Modern Kitchen



WESTBROOK £525,000

- 4 Bed Detached
- Sea Front Location
- Substantial Conservatory



WESTGATE-ON-SEA £169,995

- Lovingly Renovated Home
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom



MARGATE £99,995

- 2 bed, purpose built flat
- Ideal BTL
- No Forward Chain



MARGATE £109,995

- 2 Bed, Mid-Terrace House
- Good Size Rear Garden !!
- No Forward Chain !!



MARGATE £124,995

- Spacious living accommodation
- 3 beds, 2 rec, 1 bath
- Ideal family home



MARGATE £144,995

- Three Double Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room
- Two Indoor Workshops



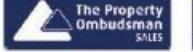
MARGATE £184,995

- Substantial family home
- Close to amenities and sea
- Ideal for a project



MARGATE £39,995

- Spacious One Bed Apartment
- Stunning Sea Views
- CHAIN FREE!



MARGATE £114,995

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Allocated Off Street Parking
- Excellent Order Throughout!



MARGATE £164,995

- Charming 2 Bed Bungalow
- Quiet Sought After Location
- Viewing Essential



MARGATE £167,500

- Stunning Deceptive 3 Bed Semi
- 100ft Gardens
- Excellent Decorative Order Throughout



WESTBROOK £174,950

- Freehold Commercial Premises
- Spacious 2 Bed Apartment over
- VACANT POSSESSION



RAMSGATE £250,000

- 4 Bedroom Semi
- Immaculate & Spacious
- Parking, Gardens, En-suite

RAMSGATE t 01843 570 500

CLIFTONVILLE t 01843 231 222

WESTGATE t 01843 836 655

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RAMSGATE £259,995

- Five bedrooms
- Two receptions rooms
- Popular location



CLIFTONVILLE £385,000

- Five bedrooms
- Highly sought after location
- Rear garden in excess of 120'



MINSTER £334,995

- New Home
- Large five Bedroom home
- Groundbreaking development



BIRCHINGTON £285,000

- Three Bedroom Detached Home
- Sought After Cul-De-Sac Setting
- Open Sea Views over Epple Bay



RAMSGATE £315,000

- 6 Bedroom Victorian Residence
- Garden & Garage
- 3 Bathrooms & Conservatory



RAMSGATE £124,995

- 2 Bedroom Bungalow
- Parking & Rear Gardens
- Good condition, updating required



RAMSGATE £234,995

- 3 Bedroom Bungalow
- Outstanding Condition
- Fantastic Location



BROADSTAIRS £189,995

- 2 Bed Detached Bungalow
- Desirable Location
- Good Size, Parking and Gardens



RAMSGATE £159,995

- Three bedroom detached
- Two reception rooms
- Garage and off Road parking



RAMSGATE £124,995

- Two bedrooms
- No forward chain
- Allocated parking



RAMSGATE £94,995

- Two Bedrooms
- No Forward Chain
- Viewing Recommended



RAMSGATE £164,995

- Two Bedroom cottage
- Recently refurbished
- Secluded locations



RAMSGATE £134,995

- 4-6 Bedroom Terraced Home
- Refurbishment Required
- No Chain Involved

In Thanet we agree  
at least 1 sale every

**24 hrs**

**SOLD**

Source: averaged out from sales agreed in Thanet for April '09 - June '09



MARGATE £124,995

- Two Bedrooms
- Off Street Parking
- No Onward Chain



MARGATE £295,000

- Six Double Bedrooms
- 23'2" x 17'8" Lounge
- Sea Views



MARGATE £209,995

- 4/5 Bedroom Period Home
- Immaculate Throughout
- Off Street Parking



MARGATE £214,995

- Family Home on Large Corner Plot
- 4 Beds, 3 Receptions
- Packed with Original Features !!



MARGATE £124,995

- Spacious 3 Bed Semi
- Great Family Home
- All Offers Considered



CLIFFSEND £284,995

- High Standard Detached
- 3 Beds 2 bathrooms
- Conservator



RAMSGATE £294,995

- On The Westside !
- Detached with 4 beds
- Swimming Pool



RAMSGATE £229,995

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Large Corner Plot
- Garage & Conservatory



PEGWELL £192,000

- 3 Bed Extended Semi
- Highly Sought After No Thru Rd
- Show Home Condition Throughout



RAMSGATE £185,000

- An Attractive Bungalow
- Approx 200ft Gardens
- Large Drive To The Garage



BIRCHINGTON £279,995

- Four/Five Bed Detached Home
- Extended + Refurbished
- Family Bathroom + En-Suite



BIRCHINGTON £249,995

- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Fully Refurbished Throughout
- Family Bathroom + En-Suite



BIRCHINGTON £227,500

- Four Double Bedrooms & EnSuite
- Semi-Detached + OSP + Garage
- NHBC Guaranteed



BIRCHINGTON £110,000

- Two Double Bedroom Apartment
- Ground Floor, Self Contained
- Approx 30'x25' Rear Garden



BIRCHINGTON £79,995

- One Bedroom Apartment
- Walking Distance to Beach+Station
- Off Street Parking to Rear



RAMSGATE £169,995

- Extended 3 Bed Semi
- Off Street Parking
- 2 Recepts plus Kitchen/Diner



RAMSGATE £225,000

- Extended 4 Bedroom Semi
- Conservatory, Parking & 2 Recepts
- Immaculate Throughout



RAMSGATE £164,995

- Large 4/5 Bedroom
- Versatile Accommodation
- Modernisation Required

RAMSGATE

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CLIFTONVILLE

t 01843 231 222

WESTGATE

t 01843 836 655

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- 1 Bedroom 1st Floor Apartment
- Communal Gardens
- Resident Parking
- Care Manager



#### Garlinge £89,995

- 1 Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Own Private Garden
- Good Sized Lounge & Bedroom
- Popular Location in Garlinge



#### Westgate On Sea £164,995

- Brand New House
- 3 Bedroom Terrace
- Parking & Garden
- 10 Year NHBC Guarantee



#### Westbrook Border £239,995

- 4 Bedroom Semi Detached House
- 3 / 4 Reception Areas
- Large Garden & Drive
- A Very Impressive Property



#### Broadstairs £239,995

- 4 Bedroom Semi Detached House
- 2 Reception Rooms & Conservatory
- Approx 110ft Rear Garden & Tandem Garage
- Highly Sought After Location



#### Sarre £147,500

- 2 Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Private Patio & Communal Garden
- Allocated & Guest Parking



#### Broadstairs £345,000

- 4 Bedroom Detached House
- 2 Reception Rooms & Large Conservatory
- Kitchen & Utility Room
- Garage & Off-Road Parking



#### Margate £125,000

- Spacious 2 Bedroom House
- DG Windows & GFCH
- Long Garden / Parking to Rear
- Vacant Possession



#### Garlinge £159,995

- 2 Bedroom Detached House
- Approx 3 / 4 of an Acre of Land
- Private Parking
- Needs Updating



#### Westgate £129,995

- Ground Floor Apartment
- 2 Bedrooms
- 100 Meters From Beach
- Completely Refurbished



#### Cliftonville £79,500

- 2 Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Bathroom Fitted in 2007
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Ideal Investment / First Time Buyer



#### Westgate £265,000

- 6 Bedroom Terrace House
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Contemporary Kitchen
- Superb Decorative Order



#### Westgate £169,995

- Brand New House
- 3 Bedroom End of Terrace
- Parking & garden
- 10 Year NHBC Guarantee



#### Westgate £275,000

- 4 Bedrooms & 2 Reception Rooms
- En-suite & Family Bathroom
- Landscaped Garden & 2 Parking Spaces
- Customised Incentives Available



#### Westbrook £174,950

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Ground Floor Extension
- Approx 75ft South Facing Garden
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac Location



#### Westgate £164,950

- 2 Double Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Off-Road Parking & Communal Garden
- Overlooking the Garden & Seas
- Vacant Possession



#### Ramsgate £174,950

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Rear Garden Approx 125 ft
- Driveway For 3 Cars
- No Forward Chain



#### Minnis Bay £219,995

- 3 Bedroom Duplex With Garage
- 2 Ensuite Bedrooms
- Stunning Accommodation
- Highly Sought After Area



#### Minnis Bay £430,000

- 4 Bed Detached House
- 2/3 Reception Rooms
- An Abundance of Character
- Highly Sought After Location



#### Cliffsend £249,995

- 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- 2/3 Reception Rooms
- Lovely Gardens
- Garage & Parking

**Westgate 0845 3703046**

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## Birchington

- An unrivalled location with sea views to rear
- 4 beds mstr en- suite, galleried landing, double garage
- Viewing essential, book now

£349,995



## Broadstairs

- 250 yards from the sea front AND shops!
- 7 bedrooms and 2/3 reception rooms
- Ideal for a variety of uses - home, investment, students etc

OFFERS OVER: £299,995



## Margate Old Town

- Stunning 4 Bedroom Detached House
- Excellent Specification
- Garage, En-suite, Gym Room & Private Gated Driveway

£290,000



## Cliftonville

- Detached Chalet Bungalow
- Fantastic Cul-de-sac Location
- Four Bed's, Two Bathrooms

£275,000



## Kingsgate

- Three/Four bedrooms
- Immaculate family house
- Near to the sea

£210,000



## Birchington

- 3 Beds, 2 Receptions
- Approx 75ft Garden, Close to school
- Family house. Must be viewed.

£194,995



## Westgate

- 3 Beds, En Suite, Views over fields to the rear
- Security gated court yard. Parking 2 vehicles.
- Beautifully presented. 1 Owner since new!

£189,995



## Westgate

- Recently refurbished 4 bed family home
- Westgate location seaside of Canterbury road
- Viewing essential

£189,995



## Birchington

- 3 bedrooms, kitchen/diner
- In excess off 100' rear garden, off road parking
- Well presented. NO CHAIN

£134,950



## Margate

- Priced to sell and NO CHAIN!
- 2 Beds and 2 receptions!
- Sunny gardens to the rear....

£112,500



## Margate

- 3 Bed S/Det Family Home
- Pretty Rear Gardens
- Close to Amenities

OFFERS OVER: £110,000



## Margate

- Retire in comfort -150 Yards from the sea...!
- Central Location with access to the shops
- No Onward Chain - call to view!

£59,995

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**Broadstairs** | £300,000 - £340,000  

- Period 1930's 3 Bedroom Detached House
- Off Road Parking, central heating, double glazing
- Conservatory and Utility Room

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**Broadstairs** | £230,000 - £260,000  

- 3 Bedroom Period Semi-Detached Family Home
- Extended Kitchen, Utility Conservatory
- Off Road Parking

**BROADSTAIRS OFFICE** | 01843 602546



**Cliftonville** | £220,000 - £250,000  

- Spacious 4 Bedroom Chalet Style Family Home
- Prime Residential Location
- Secluded South Facing Level Rear Garden

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**Cliftonville** | £220,000 - £240,000  

- Detached 3 bedroom bungalow
- In sought after location
- Garage & parking, plus front & rear gardens

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**Minnis Bay** | £220,000 - £260,000  

- Three bedroom detached residence
- In need of updating and modernising
- Vacant possession, no forward chain

**BIRCHINGTON OFFICE** | 01843 842551



**Ramsgate** | £215,000 - £235,000  

- 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Central Heating, Double Glazing,
- Garage, Driveway, South Facing Garden

**RAMSGATE OFFICE** | 01843 580314



**Ramsgate** | £210,000 - £240,000  

- Charming 4 Bedroom Semi over 4 Floors
- Town Centre Location with Courtyard & Parking
- 2 En-suite Bathrooms & Useful Cellar Room

**RAMSGATE OFFICE** | 01843 580314



**Ramsgate** | £200,000 - £220,000  

- 3 Double Bedroom Family Home
- 2 Reception Rooms, Kitchen
- Double Glazing, Central Heating

**RAMSGATE OFFICE** | 01843 580314



**Westgate-On-Sea** | £175,000 - £195,000  

- Two bedroom detached bungalow
- In need of some updating,
- No forward chain, Garage

**BIRCHINGTON OFFICE** | 01843 842551



Birchington: 01843 842551

Cliftonville: 01843 227447

Broadstairs: 01843 602546

Ramsgate: 01843 580314

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**E** [info@prospectsuk.com](mailto:info@prospectsuk.com)

**W** [www.prospectsuk.com](http://www.prospectsuk.com)

## Chandos Square, Margate



- Top Floor Two Bed Apartment
- Sea Views
- Close To Bars And Shops

**From.....£525pcm**

## Palm Bay Avenue, Palm Bay



- Massive Two Bedrooms
- En Suite To The Master Bedroom
- Allocated Parking

**From.....£550pcm**

## Paragon Court, Cliftonville



- Top Floor 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Stunning Sea Views
- Integrated Appliances

**From.....£425pcm**

## Duke Street, Margate



- Newly Converted 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Integrated Appliances
- Close To Beach, Transport & More!

**From.....£525pcm**

## Crescent Road, Westbrook



- Spacious 4 Bedroom House
- DSS Welcome With Guarantor
- Newly Fitted Kitchen & Bathroom

**From.....£750pcm**

## Harold Road, Cliftonville



- Large Two Bedroom Flat
- Open Plan Kitchen/Lounge
- Private Purpose Built Development

**From.....£525pcm**

## Northdown Road, Cliftonville



- Selection of 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments
- Working Tenants Only
- Integrated Appliances

**From.....£500 - £650pcm**

## Eastern Esp, Cliftonville



- First Floor 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Stunning Sea Views
- DSS Accepted

**From.....£500pcm**

## Sweyn Road, Cliftonville



- Fantastic 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Close To Local Shops
- Ideal For Small Family

**From.....£475pcm**

## Victoria Road, Ramsgate



- Smart 2 bedroom Apartment
- Modern Decor Throughout
- Allocated Parking

**From.....£500pcm**



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## MOTORS NEWS



### Goodbye to scrappage deal – hello swappage

SCRAPPAGE grants are fast running out, so we can expect carmakers to find other incentives to maintain market momentum.

Under Toyota's new 'Swappage' scheme, customers can still snap up a Scrappage-style £2,000 saving on an eligible new Yaris, Auris or Avensis (pictured) if they trade in their old car. It must be seven to ten-years-old – registered between March 1, 2000 and February 28, 2003 (52-plate) – but it will not have to go to the crusher, as under the Scrappage scheme.



### Audi's precocious baby car is a guaranteed hit

EXCITEMENT generated by Audi's new A1 baby car has led to a pre-launch trophy – What Car? magazine's Reader Award – Most Exciting Car.

The A1 will not even be unveiled in production form until early March at the Geneva Motor Show.

What Car? editor Steve Fowler also expects it to be a contender for the mag's 2011 Car of the Year Award, saying: "A funky small car with an Audi badge on the nose and aimed directly at the (BMW) Mini can't fail to succeed."



### Citroën goes posh with its new year C1 range

MORE luxuries are predicted in small cars as economy motoring and downsizing gathers way.

Citroën illustrates the point with a posh 2010 version of its C1 city car. The new VTR+ trim level (from £9,345) replaces plain old VTR, highlighted by the 'Leather Pack': part leather/part Alcantara upholstery, steering wheel and gear knob.

For tightened budgets, the C1 line-up starts at £8,495 and the Splash Special Edition (from £9,045) continues with air con and remote locking as standard.



MONSTER TRUCK: Skoda reckons there are many Yeti customers out there, particularly in the new 'crossover' sector identified by Nissan's Qashqai which has proved popular

# Yeti 'find' can cash in on Nissan's Qashqai appeal

SKODA has headed off into the rough stuff with the new Yeti.

It may be smart marketing to name a rugged looking SUV (sports utility vehicle) after the fabled Himalayan Abominable Snowman, but SUVs are no longer hot property in a depressed and more environmentally-aware market. You wonder too if it will find favour with the Czech marque's hitherto conservative customer base.

Besides, those needing a wheeled holdall were already catered for by the clever Roomster mini-MPV. It's cheaper, roughly the same length as its new sister and you can even buy the rugged Scout version, though it comes with front-wheel drive only.

But then Skoda expects most Yeti sales (from £13,775) to be the same format rather than the full 4x4 versions also available from £17,220.

And it reckons there are many Yeti conquest customers out there, particularly in the new 'crossover' sector identified by Nissan with the Qashqai, attracting new customers and transforming that marque's image at a stroke.

The five-door Yeti looks more upright than the Qashqai, but classy and robust and will sell

## ROAD TEST SKODA YETI

■ BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

mostly with its mainstay VW diesel engines, though there is a 105bhp 1.2-litre petrol turbo with lots of urge and modest consumption.

The one to avoid is the 160bhp 1.8-litre petrol engine fitted to the 4x4 tested here; it's a great drive with plenty of go and refinement, but thirsty against the diesels.

It is hard to fault the Yeti otherwise.

As you would demand from a car that might go off-roading, the cabin never creaks or groans or shows signs of poor construction or quality.

It is nicely understated and typically well-organised with clever storage such as the collapsible boot bin. The cloth upholstery is a bit drab – leather seating is a tempting option – but ride and comfort is high.

Even rear seats rake for extra lounging appeal and all three can be tumbled, arranged or even removed individually for varied and ultimate load capacity.

The Yeti delivers excellent on-road composure too; from the high 'command' driving position you get a great view without the cornering lean suffered by many lofty vehicles.

So, the Qashqai faces its toughest competition yet and in a style that offers a genuine, certainly not abominable alternative.



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# KIA LOGIC



## 1.0 Picanto 1 5dr

Features include:

- CD audio with MP3 player • Front electric windows
- PAS • Driver and front passenger airbags

**Only £4,635 with Scrappage**

Total Saving £2,000

## 1.4 cee'd 1 5dr

Features include: Air conditioning • Remote central door locking

- CD audio with MP3 player • steering wheel audio controls
- USB & AUX Port • Front electric windows • Six Airbags

**Only £8,295 with Scrappage**

Total Saving £3,855

## 1.4 pro\_cee'd 1

Features include: Air conditioning • Remote central door locking

- CD audio with MP3 player • steering wheel audio controls
- USB & AUX Port • Front electric windows • Six Airbags

**Only £8,295 with Scrappage**

Total Saving £3,550



Hurry, the Government Scrappage Scheme ENDS SOON!!

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## SCRAPPAGE OFFERS



FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (L/100KM) FOR THE PICANTO RANGE ARE: URBAN: 38.7 (7.3) - 49.6 (5.7), EXTRA URBAN: 57.6 (4.9) - 67.3 (4.2), COMBINED: 48.7 (5.8) - 58.8 (4.8). OFFICIAL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS ARE: 137 - 114 G/KM, AND FOR THE CEE'D RANGE ARE: URBAN: 34.0 (8.3) - 60.1 (4.7), EXTRA URBAN: 49.6 (5.7) - 72.4 (3.9), COMBINED: 42.8 (6.6) - 67.3 (4.2). OFFICIAL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS ARE: 158 - 110 G/KM. Warranty is 7 year/100,000 miles coverage plus 7 year/100,000 miles anti-perforation warranty (annual bodywork inspection required, for which a charge may apply). Terms and conditions apply. Prices correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. The Road (OTR) OTR price includes VAT at 17.5%, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Models shown are Kia 1.0 Picanto 1 @ £4635 OTR after deducting £2,000 Government and Kia Scrappage incentive. Kia 1.4 cee'd 1' @ £8,295 OTR after deducting £3855 including £2,000 Government and Kia Scrappage incentive. Kia 1.4 pro\_cee'd 2' @ £11,170 (OTR) after deducting £2,000 Government and Kia Scrappage incentive. Picanto Metallic paint option £383, cee'd Metallic paint option £404. This cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Government Scrappage incentive applies to cars or vans registered on or before 29 February 2000 only when traded in against new cars. Scrapped vehicles must have been registered to the purchaser for at least the 12 months preceding the purchase of the vehicle and be MOT'd and taxed. Terms and conditions apply. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 January 2010 and 31 March 2010.

# Yeti.

# It's out there.

Yeti is fun... combining all the rugged strengths of a traditional 4x4 with the practicality and running costs of a hatchback.  
Yeti is a true crossover vehicle and is available from as little as £13,775 RRP.



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Model shown is Yeti S 1.2 TSI 105bhp at £14,675 RRP, including optional metallic paint at £400 RRP. Prices are accurate at time of print.

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Škoda Range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) - 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 38.2 (7.4) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 28.0 (10.1) - 68.9 (4.1). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Škoda Range 109 - 235g/km.

# USED CAR ROUND-UP:

## OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### FORD FOCUS



BRITAIN'S favourite car. Or is it? Some say it's No1 through Ford's formidable market share. Fair point, but the Focus is also great to drive, practical, well-made and blessed with good engines. For second-hand buyers there is a fantastic choice of power – including the rapid ST-trim levels and body styles: a smart saloon and estate plus a coupe convertible. The car's popularity and ordinary looks are a weakness though and reason enough for some buyers to look elsewhere.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### FAMILY HATCHBACKS

WANT to downsize yet still run a car that does it all? Start shopping for a family hatchback; it seats five, can be crammed like a small van and represents a good balance of space, flexibility and economy... providing you don't go for the 'hot hatch' version. Competition is tough in this sector too, so there are few duds to beware of. Our trio here are affordable and should each give excellent service even if they offer differing propositions on street credibility – the Corolla was axed primarily for its dull image.

### TOYOTA COROLLA



TOYOTA chopped the Corolla in 2007 in favour of the Auris, but the latter has all the same virtues and disadvantages. More than any other model, the Corolla made Toyota the world's No1 carmaker – it was affordable and durable, but a little dull. There is plenty of engine and body choice though and even racy versions, though the car pretty much does what it says on the tin. Corolla prices have eased too with its perception as a 'deleted' model.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### MAZDA3



MAZDA'S link with Ford means that a lot of Focus resided beneath the skin of the first and newly-replaced Mazda3 and that means neat handling. But the Mazda stands out visually from its ubiquitous half-sister, a fact not lost on used car buyers looking for something distinctive. The '3' is mostly found as a capacious hatchback, but there is also a sporty saloon. Engines are lively, in line with Mazda's sporty 'Zoom-Zoom' image – look out for the MPS hot hatch.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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Lineage Approx. 20 words

**FORD FOCUS LX 1.6**  
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3x1 Max. 25 words

**FORD FOCUS LX 1.6**  
01/Y, 5dr, Hatchack, Metallic Red, Full Service 1 Owner, Power Steering, Electric Windows, Sunroof, 30,000 Miles. Tel 01234 567890  
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6x2 Max. 25 words

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### MAZDA3



**ALFA ROMEO**

**A2.**, 1.6 Ts Lusso, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking driver airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, beige metallic, 38061 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**147.**, JTDm Ducati Corse Q2 Special Edition, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control diesel driven airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking iso fix child seat points, carbonio black metallic, 5000 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**AUDI**

**A2.**, 1.6 Fsi Sport 5dr, ro04eur, remote alarm, remote central locking, heated seats, folding rear seats, rear headrests, power steering, body multiple airbags colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, alloys a fully fsa regulated, japan red, 48000 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

**BMW**

**1 SERIES.**, 116 iSport 5dr with full leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, traction control, abs, multiple airbags colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, parking sensor, electric seats, 17" alloys, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsa regulated, light blue metallic, 64000 miles, £5990, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

**120d ES.**, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint, £9995, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES.**, 120d ES, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint, £9995, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES.**, 330d SE Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 19622 miles, £16900, Ashford, 0844 856 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES.**, 2.0 320d M SPORT CONVERTIBLE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 19622 miles, £16900, Ashford, 0844 856 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES.**, 320i SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 26014 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES.**, 318i SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking iso fix child seat points roof bars remote audio controls, grey, 59350 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES.**, 318i SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking iso fix child seat points roof bars remote audio controls, grey, 59350 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**CHEVROLET**

**KALOS.**, SX 5dr, sm08kxt, central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, aluminium silver, 6000 miles, £6495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

**KALOS.**, 1.4, 2008, orange, 55 miles, £9985, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**KALOS.**, 1.4, 2008, orange, 55 miles, £9985, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**LACETTI.**, 1.6, 2008, silver, 50 miles, £7985, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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**TO ADVERTISE:** **EMAIL US** @: [appointments@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:appointments@kosmedia.co.uk)

**TELEPHONE US ON:** 01303 817040

**FAX US ON:** 01303 817004

## Senior & General Appointments 65-68

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- AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT
- ART AND DESIGN
- CATERING, HOSPITALITY
- CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURE, SURVEYORS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE, CALL CENTRE
- DOMESTIC
- EDUCATION, TEACHER, SCHOOL
- ENGINEERING, MANUFACTURING, UTILITIES
- ESTATE AGENCY, PROPERTY

- GRADUATE, TRAINEES
- HEALTH AND SAFETY, SECURITY, DEFENCE
- HR, RECRUITMENT
- INDUSTRIAL, WAREHOUSE, FACTORY
- IT, INTERNET, TELECOMS
- INSURANCE, BANKING, FINANCE
- LEGAL
- LEISURE, TOURISM, TRAVEL
- MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY
- MANAGEMENT, SENIOR POSITIONS
- MARKETING, ADVERTISING

- MOTOR TRADE, DRIVER
- NOT FOR PROFIT, CHARITIES
- NURSING, MEDICINE, CARE WORK
- OTHER
- PRINT, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION
- PR, MEDIA, JOURNALISM
- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

**MOT Technician**  
required for local Fuel Injection Garage  
We are seeking a qualified technician with proven experience to undertake the following:  
**MOT Testing**  
**Vehicle Servicing**  
**Diagnostics and subsequent repairs**  
**Clean current driving licence required**  
**Basic IT skills required**  
Working hours:  
Mon- Fri - 8.00 to 5.00  
Sat morning 8.00 to 12.00 (1 off per month)  
Contact: [kathy@thomasautos.co.uk](mailto:kathy@thomasautos.co.uk)

**Faversham Residential Home**  
requires  
**Care Assistants**  
to work on rota basis  
**Also required**  
**Weekend Domestic**  
9am - 2pm  
For further details please telephone  
**01795 532629 between 10am - 4pm**

## Accommodation Manager

Churchill House is a private school offering English courses to international students throughout the year in Ramsgate plus summer junior courses at centres throughout the UK. Under the direction of the Accommodation Manager the provision of family homestay accommodation is an integral part of all courses. Responsibilities include selection and management of families, student placement, planning, staffing, quality management. The successful candidate will have skills in these specific areas, a proven management record, an ability to excel under extreme pressure and excellent communication skills. Self motivation and a passion for maximising customer satisfaction are fundamental requirements and will be rewarded with a salary commensurate with relevant experience.

Full CV and current salary to Churchill House,  
Ramsgate, CT11 9EQ [Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk](mailto:Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk)

Be the first in line to receive the latest top Kent jobs

## Estimating Manager

An experienced Estimating Manager is required to head up our team of estimators for the replacement of aluminium and uPVC windows and doors including curtain walling in the social housing refurbishment sector. With contract values up to £6.5 million pa, candidates must be able to demonstrate expertise, flair and innovation in the preparation of Tenders, PQQ's and Partnering Submissions for RSL's and Local Authorities. Based at the company's Head Office in Ramsgate, Kent, there will be a requirement for visits to sites and meetings with clients. Offered is a salary appropriate to your experience, together with contributory pension scheme.

Please apply in writing to Ron Twyman,  
Planning Manager, Piper Double Glazing Limited,  
140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP  
or by e-mail to [ron@piperwindows.co.uk](mailto:ron@piperwindows.co.uk)



## Bradstow School

### DEPUTY HOUSE MANAGER CHILDCARE

£22,985 - £25,472 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts & weekends) - Term time only

To assist the House Manager in organising and managing a group of staff working in a residential team. To arrange and manage the care of the children and young adults in that team on shift. To manage the administration of the team. To take a lead role in the absence of the House Manager.

### HOUSEPARENT CHILDCARE

£19,621 - £22,221 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts & weekends) - Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, this role involves providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

### TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS CHILDCARE

£13,874 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week (including weekends) - Term time only & £11,166 plus 10% per annum - 33 hours per week, (including weekends) - Term time only & £4,994 - 15 hours per week, (weekends only) - Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email [personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 22nd January 2010.

### INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT WORKERS CHILDCARE

£10,079 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week (including weekends) - Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

### LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS EDUCATION

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school and have a particular responsibility towards one teaching group.

### TEAM SUPPORT WORKER EDUCATION

£12,689 per annum - 37½ hours per week  
7.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. Mon-Fri - Term time only

### INDIVIDUAL LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

£10,320 per annum - 34 hours per week,  
9.00 a.m. - 4.15 p.m. Mon-Fri - Term time only

For all Term Time Only posts, there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.



## ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES

"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"

### SOCIAL WORKER

Thanet

An exciting opportunity to join an Outstanding Independent Fostering Provider Ethelbert Childrens Services Fostering Team requires an appropriately qualified person to join their Team of Supervising Social Workers. Registration with the GSCC is essential as is the commitment to achieve the very best outcomes for children and young people in our care. The successful candidate can expect to receive a competitive salary and employment package.

For further information or an informal chat please call Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522.

Closing Date: 31 January 2010

Please visit our website for further information or contact the Personnel Department for an Application Form at Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762 or at [www.jobs.ethelbertonline.co.uk](http://www.jobs.ethelbertonline.co.uk)

Due to a recent increase in demand we also require

### FOSTER CARERS

Throughout Kent and SE London

We are seeking to recruit Foster individuals or couples who can show excellence in childcare or who have similar relevant experience or backgrounds.

Excellent supervision and 24 hour support, individualised professional training and more will be your reward for joining this Outstanding Team of Foster Carers.

Please contact Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522 for an informal discussion and an application pack or find us at [www.ethelbert.net](http://www.ethelbert.net)

We are an equal opportunities employer

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

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## New Year, New Challenge

MidKent College have exciting one year secondment opportunities for the following positions:

**Assistant Principal (£63k)** negotiable subject to experience.

**Head of Faculty (£46k)** negotiable subject to experience.

**Teacher Coach (£33k)** negotiable subject to experience.

MidKent College is a large, successful FE College operating on two main campuses in Medway and Maidstone. Our state of the art, £86 million Medway campus is next door to the Royal School of Military Engineering where the College is training all their soldiers in Construction & Engineering under a 30-year contract.

Our recent OFSTED Inspection described the College as 'good' overall with 'outstanding' capacity to improve. We would like to accelerate our improvement agenda by seconding individuals who will relish the chance to undertake a specific improvement project within the College in areas such as A levels, Skills for Life, Construction, Engineering, Teaching and Learning. Whether you are already in FE, working in a school or Sixth Form College, or working elsewhere in education, this is an ideal opportunity to develop your skills in a supportive environment working alongside some high quality senior leaders.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups and will meet reasonable living expenses for staff who live outside the area.

The roles above are the indicative levels that we seek secondments at. There is, however, some scope for flexibility for high calibre individuals who can help us on our journey to be "outstanding"!

If you are interested in knowing more please contact our retained consultant Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 or by email [ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk)



MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

### Office Assistant

£15,039 – £16,830 PRO RATA • 32 HOURS PER WEEK  
BASED THANET

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

You will be the first point of contact to all callers, visitors and Service Users at KCA's Thanet office in Margate. Confident in handling enquiries about the service whether by telephone, email, post or in person, you will ensure that enquiries are dealt with promptly, efficiently and courteously.

Offering support to the Administrator, you will have top MS Office skills and a 'can do' approach. You will be able to communicate with a wide cross-section of staff and external contacts in a highly professional manner. You need to be able to prioritise, work to tight deadlines and respond appropriately to referrals.

If you would like to discuss this post further, please contact Sue Hamilton, Service Manager KCA Thanet on 01843 298355 ext. 217 or Christine Gordon, Admin Lead on 01795 590795 ext. 2.

Closing date: Wednesday 20 January 2010.  
Interview date: Wednesday 27 January 2010.

Application form and job description can be downloaded from [www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk) or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 635.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824

[www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk)



# ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

A well established motor retailer in the Swale area requires an Assistant Accountant.

A busy hands-on position with responsibilities for producing monthly management information, reconciliation of Balance Sheet accounts for audit purposes, VAT returns, Payroll, cash control and ad-hoc analysis is required.

The successful candidate will be well organized, pay attention to detail and possess good accounting skills and IT knowledge, particularly Excel.

Previous motor industry experience and use of Kerridge DMS systems will be an advantage. A £20K + salary is offered dependant on applicants level of experience.

Applications in writing please with detailed CV, giving a brief summary of previous experience, to Mr Les Knight at Pompfrey of Sittingbourne Ltd, London Road, Bapchild, Kent ME9 9AQ or by email to [les.knight@pompfreys.co.uk](mailto:les.knight@pompfreys.co.uk)

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new career?"**

**Think Saga.**

#### OPPORTUNITIES IN GENERAL INSURANCE AND OUTBOUND SALES

Basic salary of £10,856 - £13,000 • OTE £16 - £18k+ (basic salary and uncapped commission)

Excellent benefits packages | Thanet

It's real people we are after...people who will listen to customers, take the time to understand their needs and build a real rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over.

And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. You'll get excellent training and development at every stage and your hard work will be rewarded with the chance to earn additional bonuses, incentive trips, entry to our elite Top Producers' Club and unlimited earnings potential. There are also superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives.

What's more, it means a friendly working environment – as well as all the support you need to do a terrific job.

The question is, have you got what it takes? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure.

If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing an application form, quoting reference SVS356/KOS to Mark Mear, Group Director of Sales, c/o Human Resources Department, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: [human.resources@saga.co.uk](mailto:human.resources@saga.co.uk) Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 29 January 2010.

[saga.co.uk](http://saga.co.uk)



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## Quex House & Gardens

The Powell-Cotton Museum  
Quex Garden Restaurant  
Banqueting Facility

Due to restructuring of our restaurant facilities we now have vacancies for

### Front of House Supervisor and Assistant Sous Chef

For an application form please apply to:-

Mr M P Harman, Managing Director,

QME Limited Powell-Cotton Museum,

Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, CT7 0BH enquiries@quexmuseum.org

or call: 01843 842 168

deadline: 25/02/2010

## MOMENTS FOSTERING LIMITED

### Vacancies: 2 Social Workers

We are currently recruiting a full time senior supervising social worker to run our support team in the Whitstable office, we are also looking for a supervising social worker to work alongside them. The positions main roles will be supporting and supervising our foster carers and to undertake social work tasks within the agency. The agency offers the chance to:

- To be part of a close and supportive team striving for a high level of care for Looked After Children and our carers
- To receive a competitive salary in line with the applicants experience and qualifications

If either post interests you, we would like to hear from you! Please send us your CV's or call for a chat!

Daniel Croft Email:daniel@momentsfostering.co.uk

Moments Fostering Limited, Holme Lodge Farm

Pean Hill, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3AY Tel: 01227 479444 Fax: 01227 479555

**01227 479444**

## Thanet is a beautiful place to work



Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

### Committee Services Manager

**Salary £29,895 to £35,007 per annum**

Under the guidance of the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, this post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee and scrutiny services, and will contribute to relevant projects, such as the updating of the Council's constitution and the development of a Member learning & development strategy. Applicants need to be educated to degree level and have considerable experience of committee and scrutiny services, including management experience.

### Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

**Salary £26,940 to £30,738 per annum**

This post provides an exciting opportunity for someone with an interest in policy review, because roughly half of the time the post holder will support the Council's overview and scrutiny function. That involves bringing together the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel investigating local issues, the Cabinet Members that take the decisions and the Directors that advise them. A mature approach to undertaking the work is essential, to ensure the scrutiny role adds value to the Council's achievements. The remainder of the time the post holder will provide more general support to some of the Council's other committees, arranging and attending meetings, and taking minutes. Applicants need to be educated to degree level or equivalent.

**The closing date for both positions is: Friday 12 February 2010**

**Interviews will be held: Tuesday 2 or Wednesday 3 March 2010**

For an informal discussion about both positions, please contact Glenn Back on 01843 577187

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working, a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail [jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk](mailto:jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk) or, download an application form from [www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs). Applications to be returned to: East Kent H R Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Dover CT16 3PJ

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.

## Raising Your Game - Big Lottery 5 year project

Raising Your Game is a £4.9 million Lottery-Funded project delivered in partnership by Mencap, Nacro and Ican and will run between November 2009 and November 2014. It will be delivered in six pilot areas across England, including East Kent, and will work with all young people with learning disabilities between the ages of 14 and 25, including those who are at risk of, or are, currently offending to develop innovative ways of fully participating in their lives and services.

The post will be based in East Kent.

### Regional Co-ordinator (37.5 hours)

**£27,403**

Actively helping young people work towards achieving their full potential you will work proactively with Nacro and one of our five other regional partners. You will also work alongside a young person appointed as Regional Learning Disability Consultant to the project.

#### You will:

- Develop and implement young peoples' participation standards across each region in years one and two;
- Identify and develop placement opportunities and from the end of year two go on to place young people with a learning disability who are at risk of offending or who have offended.
- Identify and help organise opportunities for the young people involved to extend their skills and build upon their confidence, and so help diminish the likelihood of offending.

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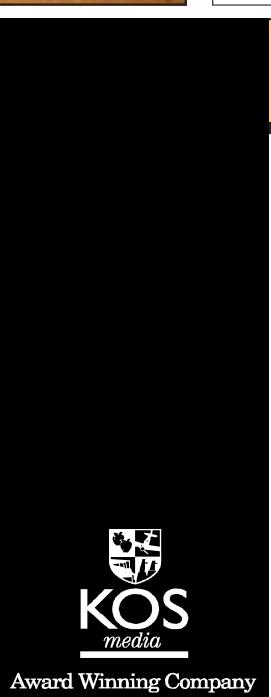
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**SUMMIT:** Alex Cowell was among the goals as Cliftonville surged to the top of Kent Division Two

# Ville seize chance to storm to top of table

## Cliftonville 4 Ashford 0

CLIFTONVILLE took advantage of postponements elsewhere to claim top spot in Kent Division Two with a thumping win over Ashford.

With leaders Sutton Valence seeing their game against Burnt Ash postponed as a result of the weather, Ville seized their chance and they now lead the table by two points.

Playing their first game after the winter break, both sides looked rusty in the early stages, but the hosts went ahead when Adam Sidders converted an unconventional

## HOCKEY

reverse-sweep for the opener. Matt Westby's well-taken strike made it 2-0 moments later and Alex Cowell finished a fine passing move after the interval to seal Ville's convincing victory.

James Proving then produced a fine save from an Ashford short-corner and there was even time for Ville – the division's top-scorers – to add a fourth late on.

Ville's women are also enjoying the view from the top after they cemented their place

at the pinnacle of Kent Division One with a 4-1 victory over Sevenoaks IV.

A nervy start saw Ville 1-0 down early on, but the goal sparked them into life and Rachel Williams applied the finishing touch to a short-corner for the equaliser.

Kirsty Sparks then raced down the wing before wrong-footing the Ashford goalkeeper to score a fantastic goal and from that point Ville were always in control.

After the break, captain Chris Russell set up Sparks for her second and Ville's third, while Toni Lawrence made it 4-1 with a superb angled strike at the near post.

Picture DAVID STEWART



**PRESSURE:** Cliff Egan says resignation of director of football Gordon Wallis is a blow for the club

## Wallis resignation leaves void at Gate

### FOOTBALL

MARGATE'S finances have taken another hit following Gordon Wallis's resignation from the board and his role as director of football.

His exit came as no shock following health problems, but with his offer of funding for the club now withdrawn, Gate bosses have been left to count the cost of multiple postponements over the last few months.

Hartsdown Park has hosted just three first-team games in 15 weeks and while Wallis's investment had helped to cushion the shortfall, Margate must now manage without him.

Cliff Egan, one of Gate's four remaining directors, said: "I'm certain it will have an impact. Gordon put quite a lot of money into the club both prior to and during his time as a director."

"The pressure is on because we've only had three [home] games in three months and like a lot of other clubs in the area that's hurt us."

"Gordon had been told by his physician to take things easy, so he came to us [the board] and said he needed some time away. We then received his letter of resignation. The whole thing is ongoing and it depends on whether the board feels a new director is required to fill that hole."

Wallis, who rejoined the club along with Egan and Richard Piper on October 12, was involved in the selection and appointment of Mark Butler as manager and as director of football he maintained regular contact with the new boss.

On discussing team affairs and contract details with Butler, Wallis would report back to his fellow board members, a role now taken on temporarily by chairman Keith Piper until the board meets to determine its next move.



**WE'RE ON LEVEL TERMS:** Sam Groombridge (second from left) is congratulated by his Margate team-mates after scoring the equaliser at home to Ashford Town on Saturday

# Johnson makes a dramatic U-turn after 'agreeing' deal

SATURDAY'S game at Hartsdown Park finished all square, but off the field things are far from settled between these two clubs as transfer talk takes centre-stage.

Margate, missing leading-scorer Lloyd Blackman through suspension, were limited in attack on Saturday and lacked a spark in midfield – two things that manager Mark Butler until Monday morning believed he was close to resolving.

Butler's former captain, Paul Johnson, was an interested spectator at Hartsdown, having quit Ashford, and he appeared certain to team up with Butler once again.

Margate put in a seven-day approach for the midfielder at the end of last week and Butler spoke of his delight at nearing a deal, but Ashford then made Johnson a revised offer and the Blues withdrew their interest.

Butler said: "Ashford made Paul an offer he couldn't refuse and he's decided to stay. As soon as we heard he was deliberating about changing his mind, we immediately pulled out and made it easy for him to make his decision."

"We didn't want a player joining Margate who was not committed to us, although I'm disap-

### FOOTBALL

■ BY STEVE TERVET

## Margate 1

Groombridge 41

## Ashford Town (Middx) 1

Haule 18

pointed by Paul's decision. A midfielder was not our priority in terms of signings – we continue our search for quality players and they do have to be better than those already with us."

Butler, however, does remain confident of attracting Byron Harrison to Hartsdown, with Ashford's 17-goal striker seemingly destined for the exit door in the immediate future.

However, the Gate boss was quick to quash rumours that he had unsettled the forward and insisted it would be Harrison's decision if he did eventually join the Blues.

He said: "My opinion is that Byron will consider his future very soon. I would like to think we would be one of his options, but I do see that Byron would have a few options."

"It's a well-known secret that I wanted two

### Margate starting XI



Subs used: Connellan (Taylor 73), Stubbs (Wilson 83)

players [Johnson and Harrison]. Those two players were happy there until Ashford unsettled them."

"If Byron's available, every club in this league would want him, so why can't Margate have him?"

Ashford struck first on Saturday when Brian Haule directed Jermayne McGlashan's fine centre beyond Matt Reed, but the hosts were level four minutes before the interval when Aaron Lacy's free-kick was turned home by Sam Groombridge.

If Gate edged the first-half, they were decidedly second-best after the break and were let off only by Haule's nervousness from six yards before Scott Harris hit Reed's crossbar.

# Treddy Test debut likely as England call up Kent pair

## CRICKET

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

KENT duo James Tredwell and Joe Denly have both been selected for the England tour to the United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh.

Off-spinner Tredwell has also been named in the 16-man Test squad, but Denly misses out, with the England selectors instead opting to call up former Kent batsman Michael Carberry as a replacement for captain Andrew Strauss, who is sitting out the series.

For Tredwell, however, his inclusion in the Test squad for the two-match series against Bangladesh heralds an excellent opportunity to make his debut as England are widely expected to include two spinners in their bowling attack. With leg-spinner Adil Rashid missing from the squad, it's likely England will partner Tredwell with frontline spinner Graeme Swann for the series.

Tredwell, who was called up as back-up to Swann for the drawn series in South Africa, said: "I'm delighted to be going to Bangladesh with England."

"I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to South Africa, but going to Bangladesh may give me a better chance of getting a game because conditions might suit playing two spinners. We have strong squad and I'm very much looking forward to my first tour to Bangladesh."

Denly, 23, is part of the squad for the first leg



PICKED: Kent spinner James Tredwell and batsman Joe Denly have both been named for England's winter tour of Bangladesh

of the tour, which sees England play three One-Day Internationals against Bangladesh at the end of February.

After a mixed start to his international career, the series will provide the Whitstable-born batsman with the chance to cement his place in the side.

He said: "I'm delighted to be back in the England squad. I'm pleased with being selected and cannot wait to get back out there with my international team-mates."

"It will be good to have James [Tredwell] out there and I'm sure the tour will go well for both me and England."

Elsewhere at the club, an advert has now been placed in the national Press for the post of chief executive at St Lawrence.

An advert was placed in The Sunday Times at the weekend as the club looks for a full-time replacement for Paul Millman, who left the county more than six weeks ago.

Chairman George Kennedy, who has placed Jamie Clifford as acting chief executive while the club looks to fill the position, said the club had already received three or four "high-class" applications that would be taken seriously.

He said: "We have had two or three applicants with county experience, although they are not necessarily still with a county, and one with an international flavour, which is interesting."

The club hopes to have its man in place before the start of the cricket season, with Clifford thought to be the favourite to take over full-time.

## LEAGUE TABLES

### RYMAN PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
1 Dartford	20	16	3	1	+41	51
2 Hastings United	24	12	4	8	+8	40
3 Kingstonian	22	11	3	8	+2	36
4 Wealdstone	17	9	6	2	+5	33
5 Tooting & Mitcham Utd	21	9	5	7	+4	32
6 Canvey Island	21	9	4	8	+3	31
7 Sutton United	20	9	3	8	+11	30
8 AFC Hornchurch	21	8	6	7	+2	30
9 Maidstone United	21	8	5	8	-1	29
10 Ashford Town (Middx)	22	7	8	7	-3	29
11 Horsham	19	8	4	7	+6	28
12 Boreham Wood	19	8	3	8	+4	27
13 Harrow Borough	21	7	5	9	-3	26
14 Tonbridge Angels	21	7	5	9	-5	26
15 Aveling	19	7	4	8	+2	25
16 Hendon	18	7	3	8	-1	24
17 Carshalton Athletic	19	6	5	8	-7	23
18 Margate	20	6	5	9	-11	23
19 Cray Wanderers	24	6	4	14	-21	22
20 Billericay Town	17	4	7	6	-5	19
21 Bognor Regis Town	22	4	7	11	-14	19
22 Waltham Abbey	20	4	5	11	-17	17

### RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

1 Folkestone Invicta	21	15	5	1	+19	50
2 Worthing	22	14	1	7	+17	43
3 Godalming Town	20	12	3	5	+15	39
4 Walton & Hersham	21	11	4	6	+7	37
5 Croydon Athletic	19	10	6	3	+21	36
6 Fleet Town	20	10	3	7	+11	33
7 Chatham Town	23	10	3	10	-5	33
8 <b>Ramsgate</b>	21	9	5	7	+5	32
9 Merstham	22	9	5	8	-2	32
10 Dulwich Hamlet	21	7	8	6	+2	29
11 Sittingbourne	18	8	4	6	+7	28
12 Burgess Hill Town	19	8	4	7	+2	28
13 Corinthian-Casuals	21	8	3	10	-3	27
14 Whyteleafe	21	8	2	11	+2	26
15 Leatherhead	18	7	3	8	+4	24
16 Horsham YMCA	22	5	9	8	-4	24
17 Metropolitan Police	20	5	7	8	+3	22
18 Walton Casuals	20	6	4	10	-7	22
19 Chipstead	22	5	5	12	-14	20
20 Whiteman Town	21	5	2	14	-27	17
21 Eastbourne Town	22	3	7	12	-23	16
22 Ashford Town	18	2	5	11	-30	11

## FIXTURES

(Saturday) Ryman Premier League: Horsham v Margate.

Ryman Division One South: Ramsgate v Horsham YMCA

## FOOTBALL



CONSOLATION: Liam Quinn scored Ramsgate's goal

Picture: GOR KUPOO

**Rams' rich vein of form is brought to end with Dul thud**

### Dulwich Hamlet 3 Ramsgate 1

RAMSGATE missed the chance to climb to sixth in Ryman Division One South as they succumbed to only their second defeat in ten outings at the hands of Dulwich Hamlet.

With only two fixtures in the division beating the weather, the Rams were leapfrogged by Kent rivals Chatham Town, who won 3-2 at home to Merstham.

Dulwich themselves brought an appalling home record into the game, having won only once at Champion Hill all season, but Jim Ward's side were left to count the cost of Danny Twyman's twisted ankle, forcing the goalkeeper off at half-time.

Twyman saved well first from Junior Kadi's free-kick and he then denied Ashley Paul Robinson, who gave the Rams back-line a torrid afternoon from start to finish.

The stopper then completed a hat-trick of fine saves when he got down low to deny Robinson again, following good work by Kadi and Sanchez Ming.

On came Sam Mott in Twyman's place and then came the game's turning point – Sam Jones running through and beating Phil Wilson, only to see his effort strike the inside of the post.

Soon after, the visitors were behind when Will Graham felled Paul Scott and Kadi's decisive penalty was too good for Mott. Sol Pinnock then converted Robinson's pass to double the lead as the Rams struggled to impose themselves.

Liam Quinn's 89th-minute strike was a mere consolation and still Dulwich were not finished as Pinnock doubled his tally to complete a miserable afternoon for Ramsgate and Ward.

The Rams boss said: "Yes, it was a missed opportunity. Danny [Twyman] had a great first-half and losing him really unsettled us and the most we deserved was a draw."

"It wasn't our best day at the office, although I can't fault the application of my players. I was impressed by Dulwich – they'd signed a lot of players since we last played them."

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RUSTY: Thanet Wanderers are keen for match action

their playing days for Blackheath and Esher respectively, and Ramsgate-based Vas is now Cormack's solicitor.

Wimbledon's Michael Simmonds, meanwhile, is set to face his former team-mates in the game, which kicks off at 2.15pm.

Gills boss Mark Stimson reveals his latest plans for the transfer window



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